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The gunman in the deadly LAX shooting says he acted alone.

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LIFE & STYLE



The debate over secretive street artist Banksy: Is he a jerk or a genius?

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ASYLUM RULES WILL APPLY IN CNMI AFTER JAN. 1, 2014

Clock ticks for NMI to start accepting asylum seekers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

In less than two months or after Jan. 1, 2014, the CNMI can start accepting asylum applications unless a U.S. Congress bill is enacted amending the same law that placed local immigration under federal control or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security delays implementation of rules.

"But we're not there yet," Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at his office in Susupe yesterday. He was referring to the absence of any bill right now

» **Kilili cites 2 options that could delay it**

amending Public Law 110-229.

PL 110-229 isolated the CNMI from the rest of the United States with respect to applications for asylum. Section 702(j) of the law expires on Jan. 1, 2014.

"We could find maybe a moving legislation [wherein] we could include the delay for another year of the asylum provision but the asylum provision needs to be germane to the legislation," Sablan said.

That could be an appropriation bill for DHS "but that has not come up yet," he

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ABC7 flips switch for live programming

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Sorensen Media Group made history last night when it flipped the switch that finally introduced 24/7 live programming to Saipan, at its local office along the Paseo de Marianas in

Garapan.

At exactly 6pm last night, the island began receiving live broadcast of ABC shows in Guam and the U.S. mainland, starting with its Pacific News Center Night News, which previously came a week delayed.

See ABC7 on Page 4

Mimi Sorensen, left, and IT&E general manager Joy Santos cut the ribbon that ceremoniously signaled the start of 24/7 live programming over at ABC channel 7 on Saipan. Sorensen is the wife of Sorensen Media Group chair and CEO Rex Sorensen. The ribbon cutting was held at SMG's local office along Paseo de Marianas in Garapan.

The CNMI bids goodbye to Covenant negotiator Bernard V. Hofschneider

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI bids goodbye today to Bernard Arthur Villagomez Hofschneider, one of the Marianas Political Status Commission negotiators that hammered out the Covenant that enabled

the islands to join the American political family. Villagomez passed away on Oct. 27 and will be buried today. He was 74.

"He's been a longtime public servant and leader, and a devout Catholic. That's how I would want the CNMI to remember him," one

See COVENANT on Page 4

Bernard Hofschneider is shown here signing the Covenant in 1975. Image taken from the University of Hawaii Manoa's Hamilton Pacific TT Archives Photos.



Crisostomo wants to see, test Romero's purse. PAGE 5

Termination eyed for govt workers convicted, charged with felony. PAGE 7



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Advertising Features

Coca-Cola, Foremost to hydrate Joeten Memorial Golf Classic

Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc. and Foremost Foods Saipan will hydrate golfers and spectators at the 20th Joeten Memorial Golf Classic, scheduled for Nov. 9 at the west course of the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

During the handover of the Coke and Foremost sponsorship package at the Coca-Cola and Foremost offices in Chalan Laulau, Rusty M. Loyola, operations manager, Coca-Cola and Foremost, presented just under \$1,700 worth of beverages to the Joeten Memorial Golf Classic Committee headed by Somia T. Quan, chairperson, and members Jose “JJ” Tenorio, Mike T. Demapan, Jose T. Quan, and Norman Peter Tenorio.

Coca-Cola products, Glaceau vitaminwater, Powerade, Foremost Blend Coffee, and Foremost Crystal Clear Bottled Water will be served at the cocktail party, the golf tournament, and at the awards banquet.

The Joeten Memorial Golf Classic Committee will also infuse added excitement at the Coca-Cola-sponsored hole with “Hit the Coke Bottle” at Hole No. 8. Details will be provided at the registration. A special prize from Coca-Cola awaits the winner.

The 20th Joeten Memorial

Golf Classic fundraiser is organized by the Joeten Charitable Foundation in support of the

charitable causes it espouses to commemorate and honor the life of the Joeten patriarch, Jose

C. Tenorio.

According to Quan, Joeten Charitable Foundation has con-

tributed to various programs and activities in the CNMI community to enhance its objective

of promoting and fostering advancement of education, health, and scientific activities.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Coca-Cola and Foremost donate just under \$1,700 worth of beverages and services in support of the 20th Joeten Memorial Golf Classic. Rusty M. Loyola, left, operations manager, Coke and Foremost, presents the sponsorship package to, from second left, Somia T. Quan, chair, Joeten Memorial Golf Committee; and members, Jose “JJ” Tenorio, Mike T. Demapan, Jose T. Quan, and Norman Peter Tenorio during the handover held at the Coca-Cola and Foremost offices in Chalan Laulau.

The Coffee Room N-106 expands breakfast menu

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The newest hangout of coffee lovers in town unveiled yesterday its expanded breakfast menu and those who sampled The Coffee Room N-106's eclectic offerings had high praise for the near-gourmet food.

Pacific Trading Co. general manager Charles Cepeda, for one, loved the Salmon Omelet in the Glass; he said it's a unique take on one of his favorite meals. The presentation allows you to somehow play with your food because you have to “dig into the glass to mix the different flavors.”

Cepeda shared the table with PTC sales manager Debra Camacho.

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu, who came with her daughter Ashley, said she tried the French Toast with Strawberry Syrup, which was divine. She said she liked the way the cream was inside the French toast, making the whole gastronomic experience special.

Herman's Bakery's Juan Pan Guerrero also had similar good words for the expanded menu.

“The food was great as well as the presentation. The Coffee Room offers a delicious array of choices. It's a good restaurant destination for both our locals and tourists. Great settings and



MARK RABAGO

Leo Pangelinan, Northern Marianas College dean of student services, and his better half Patricia Coleman of NMC-CREES talk to The Coffee Room N-106 owner Igor Karapetyan.

décor and my congratulations to our host Igor [Karapetyan].”

DFS Galleria Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce said The Coffee Shop is yet another must-visit establishment for local residents and tourists on Saipan.

“Saipan is lucky to have a place with the ambiance and selection of excellent coffees, pastries, and now regular breakfast at The Coffee Room N-106. Their attention to detail is impeccable and it is very refreshing to know that as much as they can, their foods are made from locally grown/available pro-

duce/products. It is such a treat to go there with one's VIPs—be it your loved ones, friends, or business associates.”

Aldan-Pierce, who also chairs the Marianas Visitors Authority board, came with Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Richard Pierce.

Others spotted sampling the new breakfast menu included Northern Marianas College-CREES' Patricia Coleman, NMC dean of student services Leo Pangelinan, lawyer Joe Hill, Tan Holdings' Vince Seman and his wife Kathrine

Cachero, Church 360 pastor Aaron Wood, Saipan Supersaver's Kayla Wood, Markova Tours' Ekaterina Markova, Garapan Elementary School's Marie Castro, and Zoning Board's Maryann Borja.

The rest of The Coffee Room N-106's new breakfast menu include Cherry Tomato with Sunny Side-up, Granola with Yogurt, Hotdog and Potato Omelet, Hot Dog “Sunrise,” Italian Hot Sausage Omelet, Sautéed Mahi-Mahi, Okra and Bacon Omelet, “Good Morning” Sandwich, Mozzarella



MARK RABAGO

McDonald's Saipan general manager Marcia Ayuyu came with her daughter Ashley at the unveiling of the new breakfast menu.



MARK RABAGO

Pacific Trading Co. general manager Charles Cepeda with PTC sales manager Debra Camacho.

Tomato Omelet, Scampi Breakfast, and Omelet “Michelle.”

Karapetyan said they decided to spruce up their breakfast fare so that the community can enjoy food prepared by a “good-level kitchen.” Prices range from as low as \$5.75 to as high \$13.75.

The new breakfast menu is available from 7am to 10am.

Karapetyan said they are pretty flexible, however, if guests want to order items from the breakfast menu.

The Coffee Room N-106, located at the ground floor of the Family Commercial Building in Garapan, opened in August. It comfortably seats up to 40 people and has WiFi available.

Local

CHCC still awaiting final Medicare resurvey results

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The much-awaited results of the final resurvey conducted by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid on the Commonwealth Health Center have yet to be officially released, according to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the results, which will decide the fate of the hospital's condition of participation with CMS, have yet to be issued, most likely due to the impact of the recent federal government shutdown that halted many of the national agencies' projects and undertakings.



Torres

"We're still waiting for that final [resurvey] result and we're expecting them to be issued out very soon," he told *Saipan Tribune*, expressing optimism that the decision will be favorable for the hospital.

CHC was earlier cited with numerous deficiencies in its operation, threatening the facility's Medicare certification.

To rectify these citations, a corrective action plan was developed and submitted to CMS. A federal team recently checked the hospital to see if the corrective actions have been put in place. The results of that visit will decide whether the hospital will continue to be certified by Medicare.

Torres emphasized that the hospital's condition of partici-

pation with Medicare remains in effect until CMS reaches a decision.

"Once we receive the final document [from CMS], our next focus is full compliance," he said.

He admitted that they initially expected the results to come out 10 days after the federal government shutdown was resolved but that did not happen.

The five-member CMS team arrived unannounced on Sept. 9 for its resurvey of the

facility. Unlike the survey conducted in September 2012, the team did not raise any major concerns or deficiencies since the first day of their weeklong inspection.

CHC was sanctioned with three immediate jeopardy statuses in the September 2012 survey due to serious deficiencies uncovered in just the first two days of the inspection.

"It looks like that we're still OK although I am pretty sure that something still needs to be corrected. I have no rea-

son to think that we will be in any trouble again because we maintained our focus in rectifying all the deficiencies and concerns they raised," Torres said yesterday.

CHC receives about \$22 million in yearly reimbursements from Medicaid and Medicare. CHC stands to lose this huge federal assistance without the certification for continued participation.

Meantime, Torres was re-elected to the corporation board's chairmanship at their last meeting after he garnered the full support of his col-

leagues.

He will be joined in the board's top ranks by Pete Dela Cruz, who was chosen as the body's vice chairman.

Torres and Dela Cruz have both been serving as board chairman and vice chairman since the corporation's inception in October 2011.

Torres said that this fiscal year, the corporation's top priority will be on full compliance with all federal standards and requirements, while the hospital's long-term sustainability will be the highest priority in fiscal year 2015.

Be drug-free! Be Brabu!

October is Substance Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. To increase awareness of substance abuse in the CNMI, *Project Brabu*—the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Community Guidance Center's Substance Abuse Prevention Program—welcomed all 4th, 5th, and 6th graders to participate in their "Be Drug-Free! Be Brabu!" Calendar Art Contest. Students drew, painted, and colored beautiful art pieces exemplifying or encompassing being drug-free and saying no to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Twelve winners were chosen to be featured in a 2014 calendar.

Participating schools included Dandan Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, Grace Christian Academy- Rota, Saipan International School, San Antonio School, Sinapalo Elementary School- Rota, Tanapag Elementary School, and Tinian Elementary School.

"It's important to talk to kids about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco at the elementary school level," said Rica Dela Cruz, Project Brabu's social marketing officer. "We strongly encourage parents to start talking to their kids early about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, before youth begin experimenting with these substances. Research has shown this highly influences a youth's decision to use substances."

Tiara Evangelista, Project Brabu manager, added, "Our brains are still developing up until the ages of 20 – 25 years old. Using substances before this age can cause changes in

brain development and actually increase one's chances of becoming a substance abuser later in life."

The calendar contest winners are:

■ Adbiel Carandang, San Antonio Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Angela Giuang, Rota Grace Christian Academy, 4th grade

■ Clarence Rodriguez, Tinian Elementary School, 5th grade

■ Hannah Chan, Saipan International School, 6th grade

■ Immaculate Maratita, Sinapalo Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Jerishina Deleon Guerrero, Dandan Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Joemarie Taitano Muna, Dandan Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Kristina Cassandra Lomibao Ahas, Garapan Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Mark Norita, Tanapag Elementary School, 6th grade

■ Miah Castro, San Antonio Elementary School, 4th grade

■ Nick Iguel, Tanapag Elementary School, 6th grade

■ Patricia Nicole P. Surima, Garapan Elementary School, 6th grade

Project Brabu congratulates all the winners and thanks all the schools and students who participated.

Project Brabu hopes students continue to promote for a safe, healthy, and drug-free CNMI!

For more information about Substance Abuse Prevention in the CNMI, call (670) 323-6590. (CHCC/CGC)

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Alternative to Labor Ombudsman's office opens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Indigent victims of labor and immigration abuse, debt bondage, employment discrimination, human trafficking or other criminal activities, regardless of nationality or race, now have another place to seek help: the Pacific Ombudsman for Humanitarian Law headed by former U.S. Labor ombudsman Pamela Brown.

"The mission is not over," Brown, also a former CNMI attorney general, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The Pacific Ombudsman for Humanitarian Law, a non-profit corporation, is located in Suite 101 on the first floor of the Marianas Business Plaza (formerly Nauru Building) in Susupe.

Its mission is "to provide legal services and counseling to indigent nationals and aliens within the Pacific Region, which includes U.S. territories, Freely Associated States, and island nations, who are victims of immigration abuse, fraud in for-

eign labor contracting, trafficking in persons, labor abuse, debt bondage, peonage, employment discrimination, or other criminal activities."

Despite requests to keep the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office open at least until the end of the federalization transition period because of continued labor and immigration issues, the U.S. Department of the Interior closed the office at the end of fiscal year 2013 on Sept. 30. That left a void.

"POHL will fill the void caused by the closure of the ombudsman's office. That's a big void," Brown added.

For 14 years, the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office aided thousands of foreign workers in the CNMI who were victims of labor abuses, human trafficking, sex trafficking and illegal recruitment, among other things.

These people can now seek help from the Pacific Ombudsman for Humanitarian Law.

"The main difference between the two entities is that at the POHL, we are not just focusing on aliens but also indigent nationals," Brown said.

Former translators/personnel at the U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office also moved to POHL, and are complemented by other volunteers who can help with translation.

POHL can be reached by calling (670) 234-9480, faxing (670) 234-9487 or emailing

pbb.pohl@gmail.com. The website is under construction but will be found soon at www.pohl.org.

Victims of labor and immigration abuse and fraud, as well as other crimes, could also seek help from other federal and local agencies and private entities such as the FBI, the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Brown

NEWS BRIEFS

Sunday house fires in Dededo, Barrigada

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Three people were left homeless after a fire at their Dededo house Sunday afternoon.

It was one of two house fires Sunday. The other one occurred in Barrigada on Sunday morning. No one was injured in either blaze.

Guam Fire spokesman Lt. Phil Camacho said the Dededo home fire was reported shortly after 4pm Sunday on Adela Lane. The

fire "completely destroyed" the wooden and tin extension on the home, said Camacho. The extension was used as a kitchen.

Dededo Mayor Melissa Savares says that her office and the Red Cross are assisting the three people displaced from that home.

An earlier fire at a home in Barrigada was called into 911 at 9:14am. It occurred at a home on San Vicente Street. Camacho said the blaze occurred in a single family concrete dwelling that had one bedroom.

No one was home at the time but officials say that one person was forced out of their home in this case.

Investigation is underway into the causes of both fires.

Veterans Day proclamation signing

There will be a proclamation signing for Veterans Day today, Nov. 5, 2013, at 11am, at the Office of the Governor's conference room on Capital Hill. All veterans, active and reserved

and its component agencies, and the CNMI Department of Public Safety.

Law office

Brown also opened The Law Offices of Pamela Brown LLC. It shares space with POHL at Marianas Business Plaza.

In a statement yesterday, The Law Offices of Pamela Brown said it will "provide legal services to businesses regarding corporate, immigration, employment, contracts, and discrimination laws, as well as related legal matters with the focus on [e]nsuring the corporation avoids litigation or other complications through compliance with federal and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands [laws]."

The office will also provide legal services to nationals and aliens within the Pacific region, which includes U.S. territories, Freely Associated States, and island nations, in matters relating to immigration, labor, discrimination, and criminal matters.

"The staff is well trained in

military personnel, family members and the general public are invited to come and join us for this proclamation signing.

This year, Veterans Day falls on Nov. 11, 2013.

On that day, the CNMI will celebrate Veterans Day at the American Memorial Park starting at 11am. The public is invited to join the occasion.

For more information, call Bernie B. Dela Cruz at 664-2650 or Director Camacho at 287-5351. (PR)

ABC7

From Page 1

PNC News anchors Betsie Brown and Josh Tyquieneco immediately welcomed Saipan viewers and acknowledged the historic live program underway.

"You're watching PNC News broadcasting live to Saipan," Brown said.

"Saipan viewers, we welcome you to the first-ever live and simultaneous broadcast linking the Marianas," added Tyquieneco.

Around 30 people—SMG officials and staff, including chair and CEO Rex Sorensen and his wife Mimi, IT&E executives, and other guests—applauded the start of live programming.

"We made history tonight for the entertainment community on Saipan. We tied the Marianas together with the news and I'm excited about that," said Sorensen. "News will become news that is now new. PNC News, which we will start with tonight, is live as it is happening in Guam. All of the ABC News products coming through will be live or delayed depending on what time they air in the mainland."

The founder of Air America

Radio reiterated that yesterday's "turning of the switch" marks the first time 24/7 live programming is available on the island.

"It's live programming 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You're not going to see the tape stop and change the DVD. No more. It's straight. All the sports that ABC has will come out straight. On Sunday, we have three football games starting at 2pm so football fanatics can pick it up and watch them live."

Sorensen said this is just the beginning of his company's plans for the Marianas.

"It's sort of a three-step process. The first step is this, putting live programming. The second step is to move our broadcast facility up to Mt. Tapochao to allow the coverage to reach not only most of Saipan but also a little bit of Tinian on a rabbit ear basis. The third one is to improve the amount of news that we do."

Sorensen said the new service will also open a lot of advertising and commercial possibilities for its operations on Saipan. He urged businesses to call SMG Saipan manager Tina Palacios if they have inquiries.

"We're excited about offering this new service and the reach

of our TV station is greater than the cable companies because we broadcast over the air for those who don't subscribe to cable as well as people who do subscribe to cable."

IT&E CEO Bong Mojica, who attended the event last night, congratulated SMG on this latest development, saying it's also a fruition of what he said a while back.

"Let's go a few months back when I said, 'At some point somebody will bring live programming to Saipan' and this is the unfolding of that. Rex had this vision and he came to us and asked if we could do a commercial agreement where he wanted to bring his dream of live programming on Saipan. We've been planning this for a few months now and we're here and Rex will be able to bring live TV to the people of Saipan."

SMG island manager Tina Palacios said the introduction of 24/7 live programming on Saipan only means that the company is moving forward.

"The joke I always made is Saipan is one day ahead of the mainland but years behind. Now I can say we're the same as the mainland when it comes

to TV programming and it means we're moving forward and we're here to stay."

Enhanced viewer experience

Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson said SMG's introduction of live programming will bode well for Saipan's cable viewers.

"The addition of live network programming on ABC7 only adds to the list of current live TV programming and enhances the viewer experience."

Even as he congratulated SMG for its new service, Nelson reiterated the high cost of undersea fiber optic cable between Guam and the CNMI.

"Our mission continues to be addressing the extremely high cost of undersea fiber optic cable between Saipan and Guam and to bring it down to a reasonable cost so that not only will all cable TV channels be broadcast 'live,' but also improve broadband Internet speeds, which we hope will lead to offering an affordable price for these services to the general public."

Nelson also said that Docomo Pacific currently offers live programming on 14 of its 60 channels.

legal matters for which the office offers services. The focus of the office is to [e]nsure that our clients are in compliance with the law to avoid costly procedures and delays. Translation and interpretation services are also available in most of the lan-

guages spoken by the majority of the ethnic groups within the CNMI," it said.

Hours of operation are 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Appointments can be made by calling 670.234.9480 or faxing 670.234.9487.

COVENANT

From Page 1

of his youngest nephews, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The lieutenant governor said the last time he spoke with his uncle was on Columbus Day, on Oct. 14.

That day, his uncle reminded him to always "do what's right" and to make sure that people do not forget those who helped in the formative years of the islands leading to it being a part of the United States.

"It didn't dawn on me that it would be the last time I'd talk to him. He's well-mannered, very articulate, and intelligent," the nephew said.

Bernard V. Hofschneider, who hails from Tinian, passed away at the Commonwealth Health Center on Oct. 27. He is survived by his wife, Guadalupe

"Lupe" DLG Reyes Hofschneider, and children.

At 7:30am today, his remains will be brought from Borja Funeral Homes to Mount Carmel Cathedral for service and rosary. Visitation and last respects begin at 8:30am.

Mass of Christian burial is at 11am, followed immediately with interment at the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa.

Besides Hofschneider, the other members of the Marianas Political Status Commission were negotiators Edward DLG. Pangelinan, chairman; Vicente N. Santos, vice chairman; Juan LG. Cabrera (dec.), Vicente T. Camacho, Daniel T. Muña, Dr. Francisco D. Palacios (dec.) Joaquin I. Pangelinan, Felix F. Rabauliman (dec.), Oscar C. Rasa, Manuel A. Sablan, Pedro A. Tenorio, Jose R. Cruz (dec.), Benjamin T. Manglona and Joannes R. Taimanao (dec.).

ASYLUM

From Page 1

said, because the U.S. is under continuing resolution.

"Number two, DHS may be able to administratively delay this. It's a possibility. It's something we could look at," Sablan added.

It's been seven months since Sablan and Gov. Eloy S. Inos jointly wrote a letter to the Obama administration, asking for an extension of the CNMI's exemption from accepting asylum applications beyond Jan. 1, 2014, to deter tourists from claiming asylum when they are admitted to the islands under the visa waiver program.

Without anything to delay the exemption, the CNMI has to abide by law.

"I'm not sure if the immigration courts are up to task with this. I'm concerned, too, that they would be overwhelmed. But the law is the law," Sablan said.

The CNMI is concerned that allowing the law's provision on asylum to apply as scheduled would open the floodgates for asylum seekers coming here as tourists, including under a U.S. visa waiver program that could also potentially derail the parole program for Chinese and Russian tourists, among other things.

An equally serious concern is catching the ire of the Chinese government, which could pull the plug on airlines servicing the China-CNMI route and could hurt the islands' tourism numbers.

In the past, most applicants for refugee protection and asylum, for example, were from China. They claimed they would be persecuted or killed

for political reasons if they are sent back to China.

"It would be a problem with us, serious problems with the Chinese government, not the U.S. government," he added.

This comes at a time when the CNMI has also become a target destination for "birthing tourism," involving mostly pregnant women from China coming here as tourists so they could give birth to automatic U.S. citizen children.

Tourists from China and Russia can stay in the CNMI for up to 45 days without being required to secure a U.S. visa—a DHS program that has helped boost the islands' tourism numbers.

Even the CNMI Senate and the House of Representatives do not a unified position on the issue of asylum. Lawmakers contacted for comment were not available yesterday, Citizenship Day holiday.

But at least two lawmakers—Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), a former CNMI immigration director, and Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), chairman of the House Foreign and Federal Relations Committee—earlier said the asylum exemption for the CNMI should be continued "until such time immigration is under transition."

But Delegate Sablan said yesterday that the asylum exemption and the transition period are separate issues.

The transition period ends on Dec. 31, 2014, unless extended.

Without such extension, the CNMI loses immediate access to some 12,000 skilled and professional foreign workers mostly from Asia.

Sablan said the asylum issue is among those he has raised with the federal government.

Crisostomo wants to see, test Romero's purse, contents

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Murder suspect Joseph A. Crisostomo, through his counsel Janet H. King, wants to inspect the purse of murdered bartender Emerita Romero that was retrieved at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque where the victim's body was found.

King asked the Superior Court last week to issue an order compelling the government to produce the purse and its contents for inspection, examination, photograph, and possible testing by their own experts.

The items are currently at the Department of Public Safety's evidence room.

In the motion to compel,

King said the items of evidence, collected by the government in the investigation of the case, are "material and relevant to the issues of guilty, innocence, degree of culpability, and effective cross-examination" of the Commonwealth's witnesses against Crisostomo.

King said the items have not yet made available to the defendant.

She said investigators retrieved Romero's violet-colored purse at La Fiesta on April 25, 2012. The lawyer said the purse's contents are Kotex; birth control pills; a black medium-sized button wallet containing identification cards, photos, credit cards, and ATM cards; and cell phone battery.

King said the government's

experts at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Crime Laboratory have examined and tested each of the items.

The defense counsel said the request for inspection, examination, and testing of the items is "essential to ensure Crisostomo his right to a fair hearing, his right to confrontation, his right to prepare a defense in his own behalf,

his right to effective counsel, and due process of law guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution."

FBI agents found Romero's body at the former La Fiesta Mall on Feb. 7, 2012, two days after she was last seen boarding a car near her house in Garapan. Investigators learned that the bartender mistook the car for a taxicab.

'To delay depositions of Swift Air execs would compound Saipan Air's suffering'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

To delay further the depositions of Swift Air officers would compound the hardship that Saipan Air has already suffered, according to U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

"The balance of hardships are in Saipan Air's favor," said Manglona in a written order on Friday that denied the request of Jeffrey Conry, Boris Van Lier, and Donald A. Stukes to postpone the deposition and request for a protective order.

At a hearing on Friday, Manglona ordered Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes to appear at a scheduled settlement conference on Saipan for yesterday, Monday,

before District Court Senior Judge Alex R. Munson.

She also ordered Conry and Van Lier to appear at their scheduled depositions today, Tuesday, and Wednesday, also on Saipan.

The defendants, through counsel Michael White, asserted that they are merely asking for postponement of the depositions until their motion for permanent injunction is resolved.

In her written order, Manglona said that Conry, Van Lier, and Stukes cannot complain of the physical hardship or expense in time and money of traveling to Saipan from their homes in North Carolina.

Manglona said this arrangement for depositions to take place on Saipan was an accommodation that the court made for

the defendants on Oct. 8 when it gave them a last-minute protective order from having depositions taken in North Carolina while Swift Air's bankruptcy case was at a crucial stage in Arizona.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy earlier granted the request of Conry and Van Lier to postpone their depositions last Oct. 9 in North Carolina in connection with Saipan Air Inc.'s \$50-million racketeering lawsuit against them.

Kennedy ordered the depositions of Conry and Van Lier be held on Saipan on Nov. 5 and 6, 2013.

Deposition refers to the taking of testimony of a witness outside of court.

Manglona said the postponement created hardship for Saipan Air, whose attorney, Steven Pixley, had already made the trip to North Carolina when the defendants asked for the postponement.

Second, the judge noted, the fact that a defendant believes he has a winning argument is no reason to delay the discovery process.

In their papers, Manglona pointed out, the defendants have not cited any case where a court granted a protective order solely because a dispositive motion was pending.

Occasionally, she said, courts have postponed discovery pending the outcome of a motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction—a motion that

goes to the heart of a court's authority to hear a case.

Yet even in that posture, Manglona said, the burden on the defendants to show hardship and oppression is heavy.

Given the logistical difficulties of rescheduling depositions when the parties are separated by half the globe, a second delay would be even more injurious to the progress of the case, Manglona said.

"The only hardship, expense, and oppression that the Nov. 5-6 depositions work on defendants are the usual toll in time, money, and stress that attend deposition taking," the judge said.

Manglona said the defendants have had ample opportunity since Oct. 8 to make arrangements for traveling to Saipan and to prepare for the deposi-

tions with their lawyer.

"The depositions could have been over and done with three weeks ago, at the place of defendants' choosing. Defendants cannot easily complain now that they have to be deposed at a time and place more amenable to Saipan Air," she said.

Manglona said the defendants are not in the best position to cry hardship when they could have anticipated in early October—when they asked for and received relief from depositions in North Carolina—that they would soon be filing a dispositive motion.

Saipan Air is suing Stukes, Conry, Van Lier, Hank Robert, and 10 unnamed co-defendants for allegedly conspiring to fraudulently obtain money and other property from the company.

\$5M lawsuit dismissed; vet paid court filing fee with rubber check

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has dismissed a lawsuit against the U.S. Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Navy after the man suing them paid a \$400 filing fee with a rubber check and failed to comply with the court's deficiency notice.

Johannes Weber, who claims to be a U.S. veteran based in Thailand, filed the \$5-million lawsuit for his lung disease that he allegedly incurred after being exposed to asbestos fibers while serving in a U.S. Navy vessel in 1972 and 1973.

Manglona dismissed the lawsuit without prejudice after Weber paid a \$400 filing fee with a bounced check and failed to comply with the court's deficiency notice.

Dismissal without prejudice means the plaintiff can still re-file his lawsuit.

The judge said the court has not received from Weber a portion of the outstanding \$453 fees, including the \$53 return check fee.

Weber filed his lawsuit without a lawyer on July 8, 2013, and paid the \$400 filing fee with a personal check.

The court's clerk then notified Manglona that the check was returned unpaid on July 31, 2013, because the account on which it was drawn has been closed. The return-check fee of \$53 has been assessed.

The court also ordered Weber to send to the clerk a cashier's check or money order drawn on a U.S. bank in the amount of \$453 in filing fee and return-check fee.

Weber was notified that if payment is not received within 30 days, the lawsuit will be dismissed.

Manglona said that, on Sept.

27, 2013, Weber acknowledged receipt of the deficiency notice and order.

Weber sued the U.S. Navy

for negligence because he was allegedly under orders from his then military superiors to perform work in the engineering

spaces of the U.S. Navy vessel where he was exposed to asbestos without proper safety equipment. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

RFP14-GOV-008 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE INSURANCE

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude Hofschneider, are soliciting competitive sealed proposals according to the requirements of N.M.I.A.C. § 70-30.3-210 from qualified vendors to provide healthcare insurance for Commonwealth employees and retirees for a two-year period 1-1-14 through 12-31-15. Proposals are to include all costs for the provision of services as identified in the scope of work and provided on the forms and manner identified. Submitted proposals will be evaluated on a possible 100 points based on the following factors:

- 50 points – price;
- 50 points – demonstrated ability to provide the required healthcare services of the Commonwealth.

Award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

Submitted proposals follow the structure as identified in the proposal packet. The proposal packet can be obtained from the Office of Management & Budget - Juan Sablan Memorial Building - Capitol Hill (670-664-2375) after October 23, 2013 (ChST). A mandatory pre-proposal meeting ("Pre-proposal Meeting") will be held on November 6, 2013 at Office of Management & Budget, Capitol Hill at 9 a.m. Prospective proposers may participate telephonically in this Pre-proposal Meeting with adequate advance notice of at least 36 hours to the Office of Management & Budget (670-664-2375).

All proposals must be sealed in an envelope and marked "RFP14-GOV-008 Healthcare Insurance Proposal" and must include an original and four copies and must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 22, 2013 (ChST) to:

Herman S. Sablan, Director
Marianas Procurement & Supply - Lower Base
P.O. Box 510008 CK
Saipan, MP 96950

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Proposers bear all risk concerning delivery. For further information contact the Office of Management & Budget (670-664-2375). All proposals become the property of the Commonwealth

/s/ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply



**Capitol Hill
Water Blasting
Company**

Just call: (670) 322-1129

Water Pressure Company

100% owned by a disable veteran

NOTICE OF INVITATION

The **Surfrider Resort Spa & Beach Club Hotel** is under construction in Chalan Kanoa & will open in 2014 as Best Western Brand Hotel. We are now accepting proposals for concession operators for several shop spaces which we will renovate to suit the operators interested in operating a Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Russian or other type of restaurants compatible to the hotel. Also, needed are gift shops, health spas & massage, beauty/barber shops & ice cream shops, etc.. Business compatible with hotel operations are preferred but we are open to good suggestions. Please call **234-1795** to let us know of your interest.

Manta Band gears up for competitive tour in Asia

»Musical group aims to raise \$175K in 2014

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The young and talented musicians of the popular Manta Ray Band are gearing up for 2014, with an upcoming competitive tour in Asia kicking off another exciting year for the band.

Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band musical director William DeWitt disclosed that the group has been invited to perform at numerous venues in Japan and Korea in March next year. This includes performances at Tokyo Disneyland, an exchange concert with a premier Japanese high school band, and an adjudicated festival concert featuring other award-winning Japa-

nese ensembles. The group is also slated to do a charity event at the Seoul Children's Hospital, as well as a public concert in Korea.

Also on its list is an opportunity to represent the CNMI Public School System next spring at a premier Asian music festival.

"Japan is home to the world's most elite band programs and thus their high school bands justifiably take more pride in winning national events than international competitions," according to DeWitt.

He said that, in a rare move by the qualification committee, the Manta Ray Band—considered a foreign group—has been invited to compete in an adjudicated event in Tokyo in March via

World Projects, LLC. This is the same organization that hosted the Manta Band's participation at the 2010 Carnegie Hall and the 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Summer Olympic festivals.

"We are stoked at the chance to perform in arguably the world's most competitive band environment. To be the best, you have to play against the best," he said.

In addition to the band's rigorous daily after-school rehearsals, its members and their parents are preparing for next year's activities with a lineup

of fundraising efforts. Last month the band raised more than \$1,000. Another event next week (a school dance) is expected to raise another \$1,000.

DeWitt said they have many more fundraisers that include rummage sales this month, raffle drawings in December, car washes in January, a dinner concert in February, and hopefully a prize-winning effort in the CNMI Got Talent 3 competition in December.

"We have typically relied on [education tax credit] donations for a third of our investment, student fundraisers for another third, and public support, such

as financial backing from the Public School System for the remainder. We are hopeful that the CNMI community will join us enthusiastically once again in this effort to show the world how amazing our young people are!" said DeWitt.

He said the cost for the band's tour is estimated at \$3,500 per member, or \$175,000 in total. Their first installment of \$40,000 was due on Nov. 1. This will help with arrangements for hotels, ground transport, festival fees, instrument rentals, and logistics. With the Board of Education's help, a \$2,000 security deposit was paid in September

to secure the band's slot.

"At a time of economic challenge and government austerity, some may wonder whether it should be a priority to send our best and brightest to international competitions. I would respond by pointing out that there can be no better ambassador for the CNMI than young people shining brightly at what they do best, especially in the countries that represent our prime tourist market. We sincerely thank all of you who have helped us in the past and are considering a new donation this year! I know our kids will make you proud," said DeWitt.

Saipan's Next Top Chef welcomes another sponsor

Participant of the 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition will be working with only the best ingredients after J.C. Tenorio Enterprises agreed to sponsor the Certified Angus Beef that will used during the Nov. 30 event at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

"The chefs in the upcoming competition will be testing their skills with Certified Angus Beef sponsored once again by J.C. Tenorio Enterprises," said Rose Smith, founder of the organizing Empty Vessel Ministry

Foundation.

So far, five chefs have confirmed their participation in the competition.

"We would not be able to accomplish much without the many local businesses who contribute generously to our charity programs for women, children, and families," said Smith.

Other companies that have agreed to support the competition are PIC Saipan, Delta Air Lines, Hyatt Regency Saipan, McDonald's Saipan, Kanoa Resort,

Tanapag Mobil, 360 Restaurant, I Love Saipan, Asiana Airlines, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. Micronesia, Wushin Corp., Joeten Group of Companies, Kagman Culinary students, Faith Works Church, 360 Church, Youth with a Mission, *Marianas Variety*, and the *Saipan Tribune*.

The competition raises funds for Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation's outreach projects in the CNMI, Kenya, the Philippines, and Bangladesh.

Tickets for the event are still

available at Empty Vessel Ministry office in Gualo Rai, Empty Vessel street market booth, and the front desk of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Empty Vessel (www.emptyvesselministry.org) is a 501(c)(3) charity and all donations are tax deductible.

Tickets for the 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef Competition are available from Smith (483-0162), Chemere McField (789-8211), or Vicky Benavente (483-8425). *(Mark Rabago)*

NOTICE

TO: MATTEW A. AND RITA M. OOKA:

You are in default in your Note dated October 3, 1995, secured by a Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by you to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. The Note and the Mortgage have been assigned to Guam Savings & Loan Association, now known as BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot No 330 R 12, situated in Sinapalo II, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 871 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 330 R 02, dated March 13, 1992, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 92-858, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Date and amount of Note and Mortgage:	October 3, 1995; \$79,181.03
(c) Amount due for principal:	\$913.38 as of October 1, 2012
(d) Amount due for interest:	\$1,863.56 as of October 1, 2012
(e) Daily accruing interest:	\$14.83
(f) Late charges	\$100.38 as of October 1, 2012

If the principal, interest, and late charges \$2,877.32, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice upon you, you will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against you to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after publication of this Notice, dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within this thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This Notice is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Señor y Señora Ooka:

Ti un komple i kontratan debimu (Note) ni un fitma gi October 3, 1995, ni afabobot i Mortgage ma aseguro i tano yan guma ni un empeña gi mismo dia, un fitma yan un entrega i empeña (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. I Note yan i Mortgage ma entrega guato gi Guam Savings & Loan Association ni esta pago ma fanan BankPacific, Ltd.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empenen (mortgaged):

Sito Numera 330 R 12, ni gaigi Sinapalo II, Rota, Islas Marianas, san kattan, ni ha konsiste un aria 871 quadrao metro, mas pat menus, mas patikulamenti describi gi Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 330 R 02, gi Matso 13, 1992, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 92-858, guili i discripcion ni ma incorporate guini ginen i infotmatson.

(b) I kantida yan i fechan este na debi yan empeña:	October 3, 1995; \$79,181.03
(c) Kantida un debi para principat:	\$913.38 asta ki Octubre dia 1, 2012
(d) Kantida un debi para interes:	\$1,863.56 asta ki Octubre dia 1, 2012
(e) Interes kada dia:	\$14.83
(f) Kantida pot atrasao	\$100.38 asta ki Octubre dia 1, 2012

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) \$2,877.32, asta ki Octubre dia 1, 2012, yan i resanable na apas abugado gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di I fecha ni un resibe este na notisia, un ma konsidera komo ti unkomple i kontratamu (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun kontra hago a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma dendi i propriadat tano'ni ni un empeña guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias despues de un resibe este na notisia yan un kontra minaghet-na pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asentadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infotoma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu despues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in nai'I hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na Notisia para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera-sina bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este i dibi-mu.

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



INVITATION TO BID
CHCC-14-ITB001

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 28, 2013 | 9:30AM

“LEASE AND OPERATION OF CAFETERIA SERVICES”

THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THIS PROJECT MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY OFFICE LOCATED IN LOWER BASE DURING WORKING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL SUBMITTED BIDS, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY BID SUBMISSION, IF IN ITS OPINION TO DO SO, WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL BID DOCUMENTS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CHCC.

/S/ Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer

/S/ John Diego Urumelog
Director, CHCC Procurement & Supply

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Century Tours Inc. is inviting qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

Food & Beverage Director (01)

Job Duties: Lead in enhancing the guests' CNMI experience and overall customer satisfaction through conscious collaboration with the Tourism Groups' stakeholders and partners (including but not limited to hotels and restaurants) in developing and integrating excellent/themed food and beverage products and services. Work on improving the Tourism Group as well as its partners' revenue and profitability. Research competitive markets and trends to assist in formulating creative tactics and approaches that are align with the group's strategies and produce sound business results not only for the Tourism group but also to each business partners. Develop logistical and operational plans together with the company partners to ensure effective incorporation of the F&B programs into daily operations on time and within budget while ensuring the guests are continuously provided with the highest level of F&B service/experience. Performs other related duties as assigned from time to time.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in business management, tourism and/or hotel management. More than ten years solid and progressively responsible experience in travel and tourism business with no less than three years experience as F&B director or above position. Experience of owning a restaurant business or serve as a key role in involving restaurant operation from pre-opening to the end will be preferred. Have excellent multi-tasking, organizational, interpersonal and leadership skills, as well as a thorough knowledge of the industry and other potentially related value added services needed to maximize the profitability of the Company. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

*We are an Equal Employment Employer.
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

**Procurement And Supply**
CNMI Government



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
RFQ NO.: RFQ14-DPL-004

Submission/Opening Date: November 21, 2013 Time: 10:00 a.m.

“Project Management Services for the Brownfields Environmental Site Assessment Projects for the Department of Public Lands”

The complete Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after October 29, 2013 and may be picked up at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals; in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Pedro A. Tenorio
Secretary of Public Lands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Proc. & Supply

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association
Is looking for a
HEAD COACH
February to December 2014

Location: Saipan, CNMI.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Introduce and demonstrate up to date training methods and playing techniques to players and then plan, organize, and conduct training and practice sessions.
- Scout and observe players from all levels to evaluate players' strengths and weaknesses, to recommend the level at which players can train or players, and to identify and recruit potential athletes..
- Plan and direct physical conditioning programs that will enable athletes to achieve maximum performance.
- Coach, train and prepare national team players for international competitions
- Provide training direction and develop methods to encourage and motivate players for games and competitions.
- Adjust coaching techniques, based on the strengths and weaknesses of athletes.
- Instruct individuals or groups in sports rules, game strategies, and performance principles.
- Keep records of athletes, teams and opposing teams' performance and analyze the strength and weaknesses of opposing teams to develop game strategies.
- Take the lead for developing a multi-year strategic plan for the NMIFA.

Minimum Qualification:

- Bachelor's degree in Sports Science, Physical Education or related major plus 5 years minimum experience in the job offered. Resume must reflect the experience required and references will be verified.
- Applicant must be a Class A-Licensed Coach in soccer.
- Must have extensive experience in soccer sports development including development programs of youth, men and women national players.
- Can work flexible hours and available on weekends, holidays and weeknights.
- Must have international coaching experience at the national level.
- Can communicate effectively in English and understanding and speaking other Asian languages is a plus.
- Familiarity with EAFF and AFC run programs and competitions will be highly considered.

Salary will be based on qualification. Please send resume and other documents showing all requirements to the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association - 3rd Floor, TSL Plaza, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan or PMB 338, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or Fax no. 1-670-233-6632 or email to rzapanta@nmifa.com. To be considered, resume must be submitted no later than 5:00 pm, Friday, November 15, 2013.

Termination eyed for govt workers convicted, charged with felony

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has introduced a bill that would require termination of govern-

ment employees convicted of a felony, as well as termination or suspension without pay for government employees charged with a felony.

Sablan, a former CNMI im-

migration director, said it is “disturbing” that individuals are allowed to occupy elected positions or remain on duty “and continue to make key decisions, receive salaries and

other employment benefits” after they are found to have committed crimes.

In his House Bill 18-139, Sablan didn’t name specific former or sitting government

officials that were convicted or charged with felony but the CNMI has a number of elected officials—including former lawmakers, former governor, former attorney general, former and current law enforcement officers—that were either convicted or charged with a felony.

Sablan said his bill intends to implement a guideline for the termination and suspension of government employees charged with a felony.

Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) referred the bill to the Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations.

Under the bill, “any government employee conviction of a felony shall be subject to termination of employment.”

Any government employee charged with a felony, meanwhile, is subject to termination of employment or suspension without pay at the discretion of the appointing authority.

In the event that felony charges are dismissed or the government employee is found not guilty of a felony, the government employee that was suspended without pay shall be reinstated with benefits and pay retroactive to the date of suspension.

Felony, as defined in HB 18-139, is any offense or conduct proscribed by Commonwealth law or the law of any other jurisdiction, which is punishable by more than one year imprisonment.

CPA sees increased PFC collection

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority’s collection of passenger facility charges went up by more than half in the recently concluded fiscal year 2013, based on agency records.

It was disclosed that a total of \$2.07 million in passenger facility charges has been collected as of Aug. 19, 2013, a significant increase over the \$1.32 million collected in fiscal year 2012 and the \$1.54 million posted in fiscal year 2011.

In accordance with legislation adopted by Congress, individual airports in the United States may impose PFC on enplaning passengers. These charges are to be used by the airports to fund airport improvement projects approved by the Federal Aviation Administration. Airlines and travel agents collect the PFCs from their passengers. Air car-

riers may be subject to financial penalties for non-compliance.

Saipan Tribune learned that the bulk of the fiscal year 2013 collection, \$1.9 million, came from Saipan, with Asiana Airlines remitting \$798,909; Delta Airlines, \$519,643; Sichuan Airlines, \$282,790; and United Airlines, \$178,752. PFC collection from Rota totaled \$23,210, while Tinian had \$61,708. These data is as of Aug. 19, 2013.

Data also showed that in the nine-year period since the passenger facility charge was implemented, the ports authority posted its highest PFC collection in fiscal year 2006, totaling \$2.321 million. This was significantly higher than fiscal year 2005 with only \$1.001 million; fiscal year 2007, \$1.940 million; fiscal year 2008, \$2.024 million; and fiscal year 2009, \$1.860 million.

CPA registered only \$1.545 million PFC collection in fiscal year 2010 while fiscal year 2011 had \$1.511 million.



SALUTE TO SERVICE

The Team Konbetsa Kafe salutes all police officers, firefighters, nurses, teachers, and our CNMI's sons and daughters in the armed forces for your services. We proudly acknowledge and appreciate all that you do for our community. (Team not in picture represents doctors, Emergency Management Office, Ports Police, CUC and construction workers.)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jury trial in sex harassment lawsuit set aside

The federal court has set aside the scheduled Nov. 18 jury trial in a sexual harassment lawsuit filed by a security guard against Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona accepted Friday an agreement between security guard Homayan Kabir, Barci-

nas, and the Public School System that asked the court to vacate the jury trial.

Manglona vacated the jury trial and set a status conference for Thursday at 9am.

The parties cited as reasons recent developments in the case, including the appearance of new counsel for PSS, attorney Adam Hardwicke, and the production

by PSS of documents previously unknown to Kabir.

The parties did not disclose the kind of PSS documents produced.

Attorney Joseph Horey is counsel for Kabir. Assistant attorney general David Lochabay is counsel for Barcinas.

Kabir alleges that Barcinas, who was then principal at Dan-

dan Elementary School during his employment, sexually harassed him by making repeated advances on him. Kabir said he was employed as a security guard at the school from April to October 2005 and again from July to October 2006.

Barcinas has denied making any sexual advances on Kabir. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
The Law Offices Of Michael A. White, LLC
Post Office Box 5222
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK,) CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff,) NO. 11-0118
-v-)
PIAO FENG SHAN AND)
YUAN CHANG NU,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on October 9, 2013, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 D 15 (formerly known as Lot 3, Block 13), situated in Puntan Muchot, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 838 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 D 00, the original of which was recorded September 30, 1970, as Document No. 513, at the Land Registry, Saipan.

This lot is located between The Promenade (Paseo de Marianas) and Date Street, in the heart of the Garapan tourist district. The lot has been improved with a two-storey mixed-use building, approximately 14,000 square feet in size. The building is occupied, with commercial tenants on the ground floor and residential tenants on the second floor. The area is zoned Garapan Core, access is by paved road and walking traffic from the Paseo, and all infrastructure is at the site.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Vicente Fujihira Santos) FCD-DI
Petitioner) CIVIL ACTION
) NO. 13-0470
Vs.)
Felicitas Mamuyac Santos)
Respondent,) SUMMONS FOR
) PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME REPENDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 501179 CK MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 2nd day of October, 2013.

/s/ Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
The Law Offices Of Michael A. White, LLC
Post Office Box 5222
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS) CIVIL ACTION
HOUSING CORPORATION,) NO. 07-0088
Plaintiff,)
-v-)
NANCER W. MARTIN)
and JACINTA C. MARTIN,)
Defendants.)

SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 4, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 010 K 169, situated in lower Dandan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 933 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01, dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 98-2012, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 21st day of October, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
The Law Offices Of Michael A. White, LLC
Post Office Box 5222
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS) CIVIL ACTION
HOUSING CORPORATION,) NO. 07-0486
Plaintiff,)
-v-)
VICENTE C. AYUYU,)
Defendant.)

SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 11, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 005 I 487, situated in Kobleville, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,087 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 08, the original of which was registered on September 30, 1983, as Document No. 18434, at the Land Registry, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 6, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 16th day of October, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOTTERY COMMISSION MEETING

Notice is provided of a scheduled meeting of the Lottery Commission on November 06, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the Governor's Conference Room Juan Sablan Memorial Building – Capitol Hill Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral communications regarding the agenda below.

AGENDA

- Preliminary Matters**
 - Call to order
 - Roll call
 - Adoption of agenda
- Purpose and role of Commission**
- Proposed Structure of Video Lottery**
- Proposed Regulations**
- Requests for Proposal Structure**
- Proposed Timetable for Implementation**
- Meeting Schedule**
- Other Matters**
- Public Comments**
- Adjournment**

Guam prison escapee caught after 1 hour

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—Accused murderer Keith J. Garrido was caught just over an hour after escaping from a DOC vehicle while being transported to a hearing at the Superior Court this morning.

Garrido was en-route to Court this morning for a hearing to set a date for his trial in the December 2012 murder of 63-year-old Nancy Mafnas.

Department of Corrections Spokesman Lt. Antone Aguon reports that Garrido was caught about 9:30am near the old Songs Auto on Chalan Pago along Route 4. Lt. Aguon says Garrido escaped at 8:17am by jumping out of a DOC transport van while the vehicle was stopped at the Chalan Pago Maimai traffic light.

GPD Spokesman Officer A.J. Balajadia reports that SWAT, CID, Highway Patrol, the Hagatna Precinct and DOC were all involved in the search for Garrido in the Santa Cruz area. Officer Balajadia says Garrido was apprehended after officers saw him fleeing across Route 4 into the Old Songs Auto. Garrido is in custody and being questioned, he said.

Garrido was not wearing an

orange prison jump suit when he was brought to the Hagatna Precinct. He was wearing a black T-shirt. DOC Spokesman Officer Jeff Limo says Garrido was wearing an orange custody t-shirt when he left the DOC compound this morning. Authorities subsequently learned that Garrido got the T-shirt from a clothesline behind a local resident's home.

Diane Strong called the K-57 "Patti on the Radio" program to say that she witnessed a "scantily clad" woman being placed in a police van across from Songs Auto where Garrido was captured. She said the woman was wearing only "panties" and someone had given her a raincoat.

Tuesday morning, Balajadia acknowledged that the woman seen by Strong was "injured." Tuesday afternoon Balajadia said Detectives now believe that the woman's "injuries" are linked to Garrido's escape. He could not say how.

He said the woman is still at GMH receiving treatment and detectives have not yet had a chance to speak with her.

The 21-year-old Garrido is accused of murdering 63-year-



Accused murderer Keith J. Garrido is brought outside the Hagatna Precinct 640.

old Nancy Mafnas in her Barigada home in December of last year.

Mafnas was found dead in her Toto-Canada home Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012. The cause of her

death was "blunt force trauma."

Police identified and arrested Garrido as the suspect after someone snapped a photo of him after he crashed Mafnas' car into a tree near her house.

TRICARE meets ACA minimum coverage rule

AGANA HEIGHTS, Guam—Enacted in March 2010, the Affordable Care Act touches on a wide spectrum of the nation's healthcare delivery and financing systems. By 2014 the Affordable Care Act requires most individuals to maintain health insurance or other coverage that qualifies as "minimum essential coverage."

"There have been numerous questions and concerns recently from our TRICARE beneficiaries regarding the Affordable Care Act and how it would impact them individually," said U.S. Naval Hospital Guam Business Office director Rich-

ard Boyer. "I want to reassure our beneficiaries that the TRICARE program is considered minimum essential coverage."

According to the Affordable Care Act, minimum essential coverage is health insurance coverage offered in the individual market. This includes a qualified health plan that one could have in enrolled in many ways. Some examples include a Health Insurance Marketplace known as an Exchange, an eligible employer-sponsored plan, or government-sponsored coverage such as Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, TRICARE,

or veterans' health care. Those who choose not to maintain minimum essential coverage and do not qualify for an exemption may be required to make a payment for each month of noncompliance.

"Hopefully this clarification will provide our beneficiaries peace of mind. Should they have any further questions they can contact their local health benefits advisor, Ms. Ruth Espinosa, at 671-344-9425," said Boyer.

The following health plan options have the required coverage of the health care reform law: TRICARE Prime; TRICARE Prime Remote; TRICARE Prime Overseas; TRICARE Prime Remote Overseas; TRICARE Standard and Extra; TRICARE Standard Overseas; TRICARE For Life; TRICARE Reserve Select (if purchased);

TRICARE Retired Reserve (if purchased); TRICARE Young Adult (if purchased); and US Family Health Plan.

Beneficiaries also have the minimum essential coverage if you are covered by either of these transitional health plans: Transitional Assistance Management Program (premium-free, 180 days); or Continued Health Care Benefit Program (if purchased, 18-36 months).

In the following scenarios, beneficiaries do not have minimum essential coverage: They are only eligible for care at military hospitals and clinics, and do not have TRICARE coverage; or they are only eligible to get care for line of duty injuries and illnesses, and do not have TRICARE coverage.

For more information visit www.tricare.mil/aca (USN)

Bereaved families support group meeting on Nov. 7

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have "been there." We do not espouse any specific

religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive.

For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit its website at www.compassionatefriends.org (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 5, 2005

BOE coaxes teachers to take PRAXIS

The Board of Education has said that the Public School System is already bending over backwards; just to coax public school teachers to take and pass PRAXIS 1 and 2. During its monthly board meeting held Thursday, secretary and treasurer Marja Lee Taitano said the PSS is doing all it can to encourage teachers who have yet to take the exam to review for it. It even gave each of them a \$300 allowance just to take review courses, according to Taitano. Late last July the PSS flew in a PRAXIS consultant from the University of Guam to prepare middle school and high school teachers for the PRAXIS test.

Rota project workers to get federal minimum wag

Workers who will be part of two major construction projects in Rota will receive a minimum wage of \$6.25 per hour, in accordance with a directive that took effect at the start of 2005. They will not just be paid the federal minimum wage of \$5.15, but \$6.25 per hour, said Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente. He represented the administration in the groundbreaking ceremonies for the \$8.7-million extension of the Rota International airport and the \$4.6-million renovation of the Rota Health Center. Currently, the minimum wage rate in the Commonwealth is \$3.05 per hour. In May 2003, Gov. Juan N. Babauta issued Directive 228 requiring a \$5.75 hourly wage for those working on capital improvement projects.

November 5, 2006

Fund: IDS checks bounced

The NMI Retirement Fund has confirmed that checks paid by a Guam-based accounting firm for the Commonwealth Ports Authority have failed to clear when cashed. "We attempted to cash IDS checks but our attempts failed. It didn't clear," said Fund administrator Mark Aguon in an interview. The Guam-based Information Data Services is alleged to have withheld over \$350,000 in employer contribution funds of CPA. This amount covers seven pay periods, said the CPA. Preliminary information showed that IDS may have withheld a total of over \$12 million belonging to its clients in Guam and on Saipan.

House backs wage board revival

The House leadership has expressed its support for the creation or revival of a wage review board to study minimum wage hike proposals in the CNMI. "I am in favor of that. I intend to recommend that we should take heed of the recommendation made by the business community for the formation of a wage board," said House Speaker Oscar M. Babauta in an interview yesterday. Earlier, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce called on Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to appoint members to the Wage Review Board. Chamber president Charles V. Cepeda said the board has already been created but it is without members.

November 5, 2007

Election posts lowest turnout in years

Saturday was not a gubernatorial election, and the turnout numbers reflected just that. A total of 10,605 voters went to the polling places throughout the Commonwealth for the Nov. 3 mid-term election. This represents 70 percent of the 15,184 registered voters. Even if all of the 1,506 absentee voters mail their ballots back, the turnout will hit 80 percent only. As of Saturday, over half of the absentee ballots have arrived. Absentee ballots will be opened for tabulation on Nov. 17 deadline. In the 2005 general election, 91 percent of the 15,113 voters turned up at the polls.

Korean English camp agents on Saipan

The Marianas Visitors Authority is hosting a group of 15 individuals from the Pusan area of Korea to showcase the CNMI's ability to promote the education of English As A Second Language. The guests will visit Ladera International School, Northern Marianas College, Mount Carmel School, and Saipan International School. The goal of the visit is to assure that the CNMI is seen as an obvious place to teach English As A Second Language. The close proximity to Korea makes the CNMI an attractive destination to further education. MVA would like to extend its thanks to Fiesta Resort & Spa, Mariana Resort & Spa, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan World Resort, DFS, the Korean Tour Association of Saipan, and Asiana Airlines for their support.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday to our superhero father/grandfather, William Hocog Indalecio! May the Lord bless you on your special day. Si yu'us ma'ase yan En sen guaiya hao. We love you! Greetings come from your children and your one and only grandson, Izaiah Blaze.

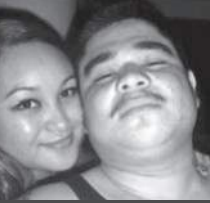
Happy birthday Rejay Iskawa! May the Lord bless and guide you through another blessed and happy year. No matter what, you are always welcome and is our family by heart. Enjoy your day. Love, Auntie Kim, Uncle Eric, Baby Izaiah, and the rest of the family.



Belated happy birthday to the most amazing mom and grandma, Bertha Ada, who celebrated her special day yesterday, Nov. 4, 2013. We love you always! Greetings come from your family.



Happy 22nd birthday to Asako Maui! May God continue to bless you every year that passes. We love you! Greetings come from your family.



Guam, Denmark soldiers learn cultures; train together



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, share certificates of honors with friends from a Denmark unit stationed at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

By SGT EDDIE SIGUENZA
GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan—Soldiers from Guam and Denmark broke cultural barriers mid-October by sharing a training program and forming a bond of friendship.

Members of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, participated in a shooting skills competition hosted by their new Danish friends and in return, the Guam Guardsmen set up their own firing range for the Danes' participation. Using their own issued weapons, the soldiers were able to see how each nation qualifies as either a marksman, sharpshooter, or expert rifleman.

"By far, the Danish ranges were tougher than how we normally qualify," said 1st Sgt. John Pangelinan, Bravo Company first sergeant. "It was good for us to experience that. Our soldiers were able to see how another [nation] operates their ranges and the different weapons they use. Likewise for them, they were able to see how we fire. It was a good exchange of both programs."

The Guam and Denmark soldiers had planned the training for several weeks, says Capt. Karina Wobbe, Denmark operations officer. It took time to set up the firing range and coordinate personnel to compete when not on their scheduled Operation Enduring Freedom missions.

"For us, the biggest thing we've gotten out of this is how friendly everybody is from Guam," Wobbe said. "It was good training. It was a great experience for us. Hopefully this is the start of further missions with Guam."

Guam and Denmark soldiers work in the same building but in different offices, Wobbe explained. This interaction led to the friendly competition.

Staff Sgt. Randy Eustaquio, squad leader, was the only Bravo Company soldier to earn a silver medal, accumulating enough points to attain a top-three level in Danish marksmanship, with gold being the



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Soldiers from separate units from Denmark listen to a description of the different types of Guam dishes before a fiesta at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Members of a Danish unit stationed at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, enjoy a Guam cuisine mid-October after the Guam Army National Guard's Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, hosted a fiesta-style barbecue to honor their new friends and marksmanship training companions.

highest standard. More than a dozen Denmark shooters earned expert badges.

Five Guam soldiers—Spc. Arturo Gutierrez, Spc. Gerard Ogo, 1st Lt. Daniel Rudes, Sgt. Ralph "Bill" Gutierrez and Sgt. Frank Fejeran—earned bronze medals.

The qualification standards differ between each country, Pangelinan explained. Denmark is tougher because it requires shooters to fire at a target 200 meters away. In one of three qualifiers, shooters fire from the kneeling position (four shots)

and then right away must readjust to the prone position and fire another four shots at a target. The shooter has 40 seconds to perform this qualification.

"This was something different than how we normally qualify," Pangelinan said. "We learned from this. This lets us know how another country does their range operations compared to what we do."

At the end of training, the Guam soldiers hosted an island-style barbecue featuring the Afghan government's security forces.

kelaguen, red rice, *finadene* and other Guam dishes.

"Best food we've eaten in Afghanistan," one of the Danes boasted. "Better than what they serve in the eating facility."

Denmark is one of 28 NATO alliances. It is also one of about two dozen countries assisting the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan's goal of supporting the International Security Assistance Force's mission of helping stabilize the Afghan government's security forces.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Staff Sgt. Randy Eustaquio, left, squad leader for Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives a certificate from Danish soldier Sgt. Hans Melchior after Eustaquio earned Bravo's only silver medal in a shooting competition sponsored by a Denmark unit at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Capt. Shawn Meno, right, commander of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, congratulates Capt. Karina Wobbe, Denmark operations officer, after Wobbe earned an expert badge in a shooting competition sponsored by the Guam Guardsmen.



SGT. EDDIE SIGUENZA

Spc. Gerard Ogo, left, of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, receives a certificate from Danish soldier Sgt. Hans Melchior after Ogo earned one of Bravo's five bronze medals in a shooting competition sponsored by a Denmark unit at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Hungry households, shameful cuts

Members of the U.S. House and Senate are meeting this week to reconcile disparate farm bills. The prospects are not pretty. Though the bills are similar in most respects, food stamps have become the focal point of a huge political dogfight that could sink the entire bill.

Formally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, food stamps have been part of the farm bill for decades. Poor and low-income families across America rely on food stamp benefits to avoid going hungry.

Nonetheless, the House bill would cut \$4 billion per year from the program and slice 10 percent of the beneficiaries out of the picture by tightening eligibility rules.

To make matters worse, funding from the 2009 federal stimulus package that temporarily boosted food stamps has ended. Consequently, a family of four with the maximum benefit of \$668 or so, will get some \$36 less per month in food stamps. Further cuts will only hurt vulnerable families and increase hunger in many households. This would lead to worse health and educational outcomes, as well as higher health costs.

U.S. Rep. Steve Southerland, R-Fla., who was named to the conference committee that will reconcile House and Senate versions of the bills, is arguably the most determined advocate of reforming food stamps. He would impose requirements that, in effect, would pare the number of beneficiaries.

Thanks to him, the House bill would cut \$39 billion from the food stamp program over 10 years and produce devastating consequences for the affected families—some of them unintended.

By reducing access to food stamps, for example, many families would be forced to eat cheaper, less nutritious and more fattening foods, contributing to the nation's obesity epidemic.

The \$80 billion-a-year food stamp program is part of the \$500 billion, multi-year farm bill that sets policy for farm subsidies, food stamps, and other rural projects.

It's a vital program, but unless lawmakers reach agreement by year's end, dairy supports could expire, which would send the price of milk soaring for all consumers.

The sensible choice is the Senate approach, which would cut only about a tenth of the amount proposed by the House.

It would be shameful for Congress to yank food stamps from vulnerable families during this weak economy. The food stamp program may need reform, but draconian cuts in eligibility would do more harm than good.

For a Congress woefully short on legislative accomplishments, this bill is a test of competence. Lawmakers, it's past time to reach a compromise and actually pass a major piece of legislation.

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Slaying a biblically bad idea

By **JOEL S. BADEN** and **CANDIDA MOSS**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

How did David defeat Goliath? According to the Bible, it was because God was on his side. But according to Malcolm Gladwell, it was largely because Goliath had a disorder known as acromegaly, a tumor on the pituitary gland.

This disorder, identified in the late 19th century, manifests as gigantism, and it may affect vision. Gladwell lays out his case in his new book, "David and Goliath." Acromegaly could account for Goliath's unusual size, he writes, and the vision problems it can cause could explain a range of details in the Bible: Goliath's slow movements; his request that David come to him rather than the other way around; his need for an attendant to walk with him onto the battlefield; even the fact that Goliath taunts David by saying, "You come against me with sticks?" in the plural, when, in fact, David is carrying but a single stick. This analysis isn't original to Gladwell. Dictionaries of ancient Judaism, biblical commentaries and medical handbooks alike use Goliath as an interesting and well-known example of this potent condition.

But even setting aside the problematic assumption that the biblical story preserves a perfect historical record—a problem exemplified by the fact that the earliest version of the story we have actually has Goliath saying "stick," singular—diagnosing Goliath, and recasting the David and Goliath story, this way is insupportable.

No modern doctor would be content to rely on the scraps of information that pass for evidence here. The hormone tests and magnetic resonance imaging usually used to diagnose the condition are, of course, impossible to perform. Moreover, Goliath presents with only two of many symptoms associated with the condition. He was tall and maybe he didn't see so well; even WebMD wouldn't be so bold as to diagnose with no more than that. This kind of "scientific" analysis fails on its own terms.

And even if we were to discover Goliath's body, exhume it and prove with all our most advanced technology that he did indeed have a tumor on his pituitary gland, it would change nothing about the meaning of the Bible's story and which warrior had the advantage. No one at the time would have viewed Goliath as anything other than fearsome. Being unusually tall would have been seen as a great advantage, particularly for a soldier. As for blurred or distorted vision, this was disabling in the ancient world, as it is today, but it

must have been a great deal more common in a society without opticians. Today, 75 percent of Americans use corrective lenses; how much less noteworthy must Goliath's vision impairment have been in his own time?

The point is this: No contemporary of Goliath would have seen him as disabled—if, in fact, they themselves could see him clearly. What we assess as disability the ancients saw as super-ability. What we interpret as impairment they interpreted as a mark of divine favor. Within the world of the narrative, it's clear that none of the Israelites or Philistines understood the confrontation as one of abled against disabled.

It's telling that of all the biblical verses Gladwell cites, he avoids the one that provides the key to the non-medical readings of the story: "I come against you in the name of the Lord of Hosts." This theological explanation for David's victory may not be accurate; it may have been a matter of fast against slow, nimble against encumbered, innovative against conservative, as Gladwell suggests. But disabling Goliath—and thereby rendering God unnecessary and impotent—is an anachronistic imposition on the ancient text. It produces a creative reading of the story, but it fails to give us what Gladwell claims to be providing: an objective, timeless key to understanding Goliath's defeat.

Reading the text in Gladwell's way is a form of "now-ism": It assumes that we understand the data better than those who are actually providing it for us. It is, unfortunately, symptomatic of numerous medical readings of the Bible. Many characters have been paraded through the amateur physician's consulting room. King Saul wasn't afflicted by an evil spirit from God, he was bipolar; the prophet Ezekiel's terrifying visions were not messages from God, but the result of paranoid schizophrenia; and Job's painful boils were no divine punishment but merely hyperimmunoglobulin E syndrome, commonly known as "Job's disease."

The attempt to diagnose historical and literary figures using modern medicine obscures the fact that the significance of their physical characteristics has to be evaluated in context. The overconfident giant to be slain here is surely the short-sighted arrogance of modern diagnostics.

Joel Baden, associate professor of Old Testament at Yale University, is the author of The Historical David: The Real Life of an Invented Hero. Candida Moss is professor of New Testament and early Christianity at the University of Notre Dame. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Unestu Na Sentimentu

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Piniloghu na todū felis tinige`hu pot ma-umentan numeron tautau-ta ni rumisisibe ayudon programan federat. Ha faisenyu` un` prohimu para bai`n konbetsasion.

Ilegña nu guahu: “Esta para ochu años desde ke tai offisiyu”. `Nai ni mona ni tatte, hu huchum matahu ya fumilayu` gi NAP. Mamahlauyu` sa` man-hoñggeyu` na todū neñkanu ni mapega gi lamasan sena debi ginen masahalomhu. Lau mampos sumen appenas cho`chu` na tiempu ayu na hu pañot haf` hu petsi-sige pa`gu”.

I fino`ña pot taya` cho`chu` gumu`ot metgot attensionhu. Magahet na guaha saís mit na tautau man-tai offisiu esta pagu. `Nai taigie sasyan cho`chu` para u katsu pottanmonedan familia haf` taimanu ha komple obligasioña kumu padre de familia? Makat na pinadese ya esta hana` ma`ase`yu` i prohimu sa` nina` mesgu` lagu` mataña `nai hasasañgan pinadesiña.

Este na sentimentu ha birague` tatte gi chalan ni mapokakate ni man-ma-elihe gi hilu` un` kuestion: haf` kabales man-machogue para umasoyu` mas fiñkas man-inbette guine `nai siña man-ma-establese mas cho`chu` para i tautau-ta?

I mismu sentimentu ha fanunue` hit i difrensia gi tiempun abundansia (mediu ochenta yan nobenta siha na sakan) kontra i didog na pinadese pa`gu. Mampos maribaha fiñkas tano`ta `nai mamatmos gobietnota gi halom sumen aplacha` an fache` dibi.

Gi parehu sakudida, este na sentimentu `nai mau`udai hinanau tautau-ta siha guine pot malie` klaru na taya` appottunadat niha pot cho`chu` yan yanu na plaset prosperu na lina`la`. Poresu, mamatki-lyu` pot ma-umentan tautau-ta bumenefisia ayudun federat siha. Ni guahu ti siña hu kubre nesessidat i amiguhu.

Dehemunos de galun

I chinatsaga todū ha palalae` ya ni unu soplu. Parehu man-ñga-ha` hulu` gi lañget abiu na ginagau ayudu pot mampos hana` fan miseraple linala`ta i chatsagan tiempu.

Gi hilu` pisun miseraple na modun lina`la`, esta tihu keketuñgu` haf` galun-mu politika soluke haf` un` chochogue para un` alibia i pinadesen i tautau siha gi señsoñg ni man-nanañgu gi halom aplacha` na fache chinatsaga.

Mauleg inna` fan manuñgu` i publiku haf` `nau na aktu i siña umadelanta appottunadat friñkas, cho`chu` yan yanu na plaset para todus gi tanu` prosperu na kinalamten ekonomia. Nae` ham ni listan miyu ya hame bai`n ebalua sustansian ennau siha na lehislasion. Prontu `in nanañga haf` ineppen miyu nu este na asuntun linahyan.

Che`chu` Linahyan

Megai `nai ta dibina haf` na mampos reput i man-ma-elihe gi che`chu` linahyan. Ilegña un` prohimu giya guahu, “Ti siña ta adiñgane sa` ensegidas malabla hau kau `un` tuñgo`ña ke guahu ni ma-elihe?” Taya` kampu para fotmat lau pasensia na inadiñgan.

Lau este na modun maña debi i ma-elihe u ta`lun rumepasa sa` i mensahe ni mafattu gi talañgaña ginen i tautau ni ha representa.

Kumeke ileghu, fan eyag man-ekuñgog sa` sinsiyu i sentimenton publiku gi haf` ha lagnos gi pachotña.

Lamegai hu dagau kuestion gi ridondun hunta ya memegaiña ti dumanche i ineppe. Rason? Ni unu ume`ekuñgog ayu mina` ti makomprende dichu asuntu ni hu faisen gi pisu. Sensian hinimidde mampos appenas gi halom man-ma-elihe. Ke lau hafa adai tinaten miyu na mampos in` attisa mañan sai` antis karisu?

Kustumbren Mamatkilu

Pot siñku siglu mahatme iya Marianas ni Españot, Haliman, Japones yan pa`gu Amerikanu. Kada unu fuetsau ha choneg usun liñgua-hiña gi natibu kontodu kutturaña sin konsiderasion na gai tradision lokue` i natibu.

I maprohiben liñguahe hana` fan ñañgon i natibu. Ginen este `nai matutuhon sineyu` silensiu gi todū konbetsasion natibu. Estague` umafuetsas modun fatkilu lau hagas i natibu ha diskukute asuntoña siha dibuenamente gi huntan komunida.

Mauleg sa` numa`lu tatte oppan i pisun direchun petsonat `nai siña ha sañgan haf` gaige gi hinassota. Lau hombre este a`anog ha` na megaiña manyomahlau `nos pot timatuñgu` i asuntu lau soblant-en milag fache ni ma-afuetsas antes kontra natibu.

■■■

Ha faisenyu` amiguhu Magoo haf` gaige gi tatten Attikulu Dose. Hu labla na guiya i dose dichu rason sa` hafa na debi ta punu` ensegidas. “I mina` tresi, bota ya tana` para ennau i dose sa` esta man-gaige hit gi mina tresi na eskalera”.

Sige umaguagat na mauleg para i tautau tanu`. Hu usune umesp-likaye na maulegña `an tanana`lu tatte i hagas sisteman disposision tanu` praibet yan publiku. “Gi hagas sistema, iyomu kabales i tanu`. Gi papa` Attikulu Dose, iyomu yan ti iyomu i tanu”.

Ha atanyu` ya ilegña, “Haf` `nau i iyoghu yan ti iyoghu i tanu`?” Ennague` sustansian Attikulu Dose! Haf` mohon?

Sebelius deserves applause—not derision—from friend and foe alike

WASHINGTON—Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius shouldn’t be made a scapegoat for the Keystone Kops-like rollout of the Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act this fall.

Instead, Sebelius deserves a round of applause from all Americans and especially President Barack Obama for working overtime to promote the signature legislation of his presidency.

Normally putting together a website to handle the complexities of the 906-page bill and its several thousand pages of interpretive regulations would take five years of planning. Sebelius was forced by circumstances beyond her control to do it in less than two years.

That’s the equivalent of introducing first-time players to video games by having them start with an ultra-advanced version of Dungeons and Dragons, where new dangers lurk behind every twist and turn.

Sebelius was handed the game’s controls while attempting to keep up with a body-numbing schedule that included dozens of personal appearances to tout the benefits of what may well be the most unwieldy piece of legislation ever passed by Congress.

When it was enacted in March 2010, no one in the House and Senate was aware of all its often-contradictory complexities—ones that later became a nightmare for the bureaucrats in dozens of federal agencies charged with writing its rules and regulations.

Those right-wingers who fault Sebelius for hiring a Fairfax, Va., subsidiary of the Canadian giant CGI to construct the healthcare.gov website are far, far off-base.

The Montreal-based firm—“Conseillersven Geston et Informatique” in French, which roughly translates to “Information Systems and Management Consultants” in English—is arguably the world’s most experienced builder of governmental health care websites.

According to Judi McLeod, an influential Toronto-based columnist, “the company is deeply embedded in Canada’s single-payer system,” providing information tech services to the national health provider Health Canada as well as to the Canadian Ministries of Health in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

When Sebelius signed up CGI, she had every reason to assume that a company with its experi-

ence would be able to roll out a “glitch-proof” health care website for Americans.

What she—or more likely her IT advisers at HHS—failed to consider was that Canada’s single-payer system is a model of simplicity compared to the Rube Goldberg complexity of Obamacare.

By **WAYNE MADSEN**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Wayne Madsen is a contributing writer to www.onlinejournal.com. Readers may write to him at National Press Club, front desk, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20045.



If the Democratic-controlled Congress in 2010 had passed a simple single-payer system like those already successful in Canada, Britain, France and most European countries, it could have prevented most of Sebelius’ current headaches.

Still, despite the current hubbub, Sebelius may have a better chance of survival than most pundits think.

The mob of right-wing zanies now calling for her head almost surely will convince Obama to remain steadfast in his recent “full confidence in her” pledge.

Kansas City Star columnist Steve Kraske recently noted: “For all her 26 years in government, Kathleen Sebelius has stood as a model of cool. Unflappable, Firm Always, always in control—a product, surely, of her upbringing in the high-profile family of former Ohio Gov. John Gilligan.”

The decision of the Obama administration to fly in planeloads of high-tech wizards from California’s Silicon Valley may well effectuate a fast repair that makes healthcare.gov easily navigable for millions of desperate Americans.

And after a lifetime of exposure to bare-knuckle politics, Sebelius herself is not likely to wave the white flag of surrender.

Ellen Gilligan, her sister, recently observed that if Sebelius is forced out, “they will never get anybody else confirmed” because of the dust clouds of controversy gathered over the law.

As The Star’s Kraske pointed out in his column, “Besides, who would take the job?”

Her clueless incompetence deserves a one-way ticket to Topeka

WASHINGTON—Our Botcher-in-Chief is searching for a fall gal to blame for the continuing train wreck that is Obamacare, and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius seems the likely pick.

Sebelius, the former Democratic governor, of Kansas, recently testified at the House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing where Republicans and even some Democrats prodded her about why Healthcare.gov and Obamacare itself seem to be on life support.

With her testimony, Sebelius indicated a willingness to cooperate with Congress, thus muting charges that Obama administration was engaged in a wholesale cover-up.

Even with that testimony, Sebelius, as she freely admitted, is stuck with ownership of the Obamacare website fiasco. If historical standards for incompetence

are still in play, Sebelius already would be back in Topeka.

Sebelius has had a strange disdain for Capitol Hill when you consider that her father, John Gilligan, was a member

of the House before becoming a Democratic of governor of Ohio.

Until recently Sebelius not only was turning a cold shoulder to Congress, but to the Fourth Estate as well.

A few weeks ago, The Associated Press obtained an internal memo from Sebelius’ department stating the administration expected to have 500,000 enrolled in Obamacare by the end of October and 3.3 million by the end of the year.

Responding to an AP query about those expectations, Sebelius’ HHS declined to answer, but did issue a statement saying that the administration “has not set monthly enrollment targets.”

Of course, the Affordable Care and Patient Protection Act passed the Democratic-controlled House and Senate in March of 2010, so Sebelius has had some 42 months to get its

website up and rolling.

One problem, of course, is that no one in Congress actually knew what was in Obama’s signature legislative achievement.

As House Speaker Nancy Pelosi famously told her colleagues shortly before the vote, “We have

By **BOGDAN KIPLING**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

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to pass the bill so you can find out what’s it.”

Chances are good that Sebelius, like many of her Democratic colleagues on Capitol Hill, hasn’t read all 906 pages of the Affordable Care Act or the 2,202 small-print pages of regulations it has begot thus far.

Her unfamiliarity and sometime confusion is passing strange because Sebelius—more than any other administration official—has been the designated Top Tub Thumper for Obamacare. She has crisscrossed the country speaking to carefully selected audiences and friendly talk show hosts and had dozens of op-ed published in newspapers around the country.

Unfortunately for Sebelius, a likely majority of the Americans, warily waiting for Obamacare to take control of one-sixth of the world’s leading economy, now view her performance as the nation’s chief health advocate as an unmitigated disaster.

As anger and frustration have mounted over the inaccessibility of the health care website, Sebelius has become the target of catcalls, jeering jokes on late-night talk shows and increasing number of shouts from both sides of the aisle for her resignation. It’s difficult for Americans to have much faith in someone who can’t oversee the construction of a website—in an age when thousands of sites are successfully launched each day.

“It’s tough to take these shots,” Sebelius said a few days ago. “But I will take them until we get this right.”

Taxpayers may be frowning at the thought. But somewhere in Guilford Cemetery in Surrey, England, the skeleton of Lewis Carroll must be grinning—Alice in Wonderland lives on.

SHOULD HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY KATHLEEN SEBELIUS GO?






CON

PRO

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼78
Palau	Showers	▲87 ▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲88 ▼79
Chuuk	Showers	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼75
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼79

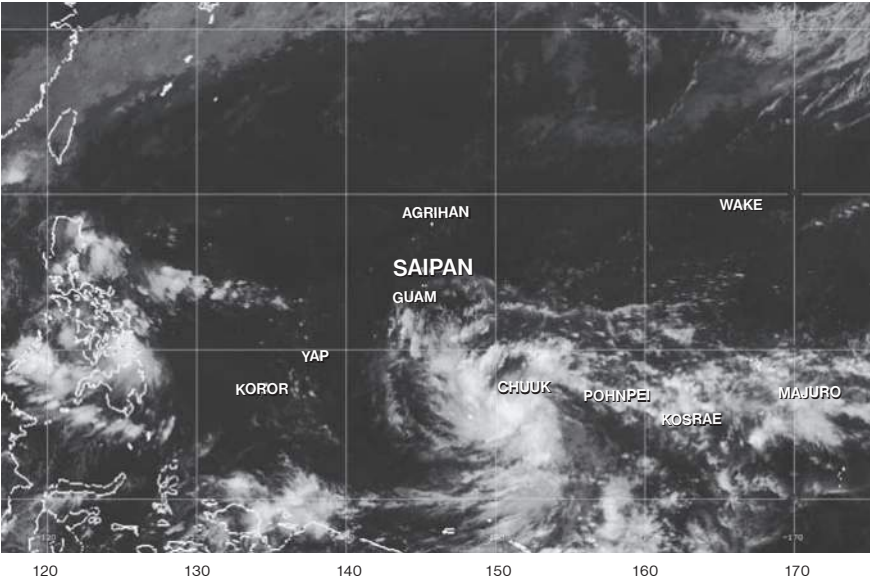
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲65 ▼56
Beijing	Sunny	▲63 ▼35
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲83 ▼75
Honolulu	Showers	▲85 ▼73
London	Rain	▲53 ▼48
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74 ▼50
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼55
Miami	Showers	▲82 ▼75
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲55 ▼43
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲69 ▼59
Paris	Cloudy	▲58 ▼54
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼56
Rome	Sunny	▲70 ▼54
Salem	Showers	▲54 ▼43
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲68 ▼50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲62 ▼52
Tokyo	Sunny	▲68 ▼56
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲59 ▼46

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:30 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
9:18 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
2:55 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:01 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Haiyan (31W) is centered 120 miles south-southwest of Chuuk at 6N151E with maximum sustained winds of 40 mph and is moving westward at 13 mph. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over portions of Chuuk and Pohnpei states between 10N and 3N from 147E to 156E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms exist well south of Chuuk between 3N and the equator from 150E to 160E and southeast of Guam within 80 miles of a line from 11N144E to 11N150E. For more information on TS Haiyan, refer to public advisories issued by the National WService under WMO header WTPQ33 PGUM and bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Yap and Koror within 60 miles of a line from 14N130E to 13N138E. Low-level convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over portions of Pohnpei and Kosrae states and the Marshall Islands within 160 miles of a line from 7N157E 7N170E to 8N180. A cold front extends southwestward from 25N170E to 22N160E to 23N150E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found over Minami Tori Shima along and north of the front to beyond 25N.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Wednesday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Thursday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:38 AM	7:22 PM
Wednesday	8:39 AM	8:22 PM
Thursday	9:39 AM	9:23 PM
Friday	10:36 AM	10:24 PM
Saturday	11:29 AM	11:23 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) DL287 6:05am 11:25pm 2 via NRT	PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN DL298 4:35am 3:00pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 D2102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 D2104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN D2101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily D2103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:05am 10:30pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:40am 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

Volatile prices at gas pumps give drivers whiplash

NEW YORK (AP)—Local gasoline prices are swinging up and down ever more drastically, a result of a national fuel system that is operating with a shrinking margin for error.

Jumps of 20 cents per gallon or more in a single day are becoming more common, for example, according to an AP analysis of daily and weekly price changes at 120,000 U.S. gasoline stations tracked by GasBuddy.com. Sixty-three times this year at least one U.S. metro area has seen such a change. Like the 24-cent increase Decatur, Ill. drivers saw on Jan. 26, or the 24-cent increase in Superior, Wis. on April 30, and the 28-cent increase in Henderson, Ky. on Sept. 19.

Not since 2008 have there been so many 20-cent changes. Last year those happened 58 times. In 2011 they happened just 21 times, and in 2010 just 7 times.

"There's more and more feast or famine," says Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service and GasBuddy.com.

The problem, analysts say, is a fuel system increasingly vulnerable to short-term shocks. That's because refiners try to keep stocks of gasoline low to save money, just as other manufacturers aim to operate on a "just-in-time" inventory schedule. The nation has about 26 days' worth of gasoline demand in storage, compared with 30 to 40 days' worth during much of the 1980's and 1990's, accord-

ing to the Energy Department. Also, there are 143 operating refineries, about half the total from 1980, so, if one has a problem, supplies quickly drop.

That price whiplash has a cost. Spikes in gasoline prices are more damaging to the economy than a slow rise in prices because they undermine consumer confidence, economists say. Drivers may be pleasantly surprised when prices slide lower, like they have recently—the national average is at \$3.28, its lowest level of the year. But they don't know when the price might bounce back up, and increases are almost always sharper than decreases. That makes it harder to budget for the daily commute, or know whether dinner out or a new appliance will be affordable.

These dramatic local price swings are happening despite relatively stable oil prices and a national average gasoline price that has hovered around \$3.50 per gallon for three years. In 2008, the last time local prices were this volatile, oil spiked to \$145 a barrel in July, then plunged below \$40 in late December as the global financial crisis sent energy markets reeling. The national average gasoline price ranged from \$1.62 to \$4.11 a gallon.

Nowhere is it more frustrating to buy gas than in Kokomo, Ind., a flat, unassuming blue collar city surrounded by farmland 45 miles north of Indianap-



The pump shows the purchase of fuel after gas prices dropped to \$3.17 at a Marathon Station in Kokomo, Ind., Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013.

olis that regularly sees 10-cent or 20-cent price changes in a single day. On average, the price changes 5 cents there every day and 16 cents every week, the highest in the nation, according to GasBuddy.com.

Jim Brooks, who works at a Chrysler transmission plant in town, does his best to fill up elsewhere. "If I don't have to buy gas in Kokomo, I don't," he said recently at Manjas Marathon station in Kokomo during a lunch

break. He bought a soda and some chips, but not gasoline.

Gas station owners set their prices based on how much it cost to buy the last shipment of wholesale gasoline, how much the next shipment will cost, and

what competitors are doing. Stations typically make very little on gasoline, because they set the price as low as possible to attract people into their more profitable convenience stores.

The price they pay for wholesale gasoline is determined by deals between refiners and distributors that are usually based on benchmarks set on exchanges, such as the New York Mercantile Exchange.

When supplies are quick to rise or fall, it means more of what frustrates drivers: Gasoline prices that seem to jump around a few cents every time they fill up, for no rhyme or reason. This year 57 U.S. metro areas have averaged price changes of at least a dime over a week. Last year just 38 cities did, and in 2011 it was just 29 cities.

Volatility is most pronounced in the four neighboring states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky. Of the biggest 50 one-day swings in gasoline prices over the past three years, 41 were in those four states. Michigan is also plagued by especially high volatility. Flint, Michigan is second only to Kokomo in average daily price changes this year.

Analysts say a major upgrade underway at BP's enormous Whiting Refinery in Northwest Indiana that processes 413,000 barrels of oil per day and serves much of the region is partly to blame. Construction has kept output lower, especially during the first half of 2013.

LAX returning to normal after shooting

Operations at Los Angeles International Airport were returning to normal by Saturday afternoon following Friday's shooting that killed a TSA officer and closed parts of the airport.

Airport officials said Saturday that LAX's Terminal 3 had reopened. Officials urged travelers who left belongings behind in the shooting's aftermath to work with their airline to claim possessions.

Thousands of fliers across the U.S. were delayed after the closed parts of the airport. The prolonged shutdown at the nation's third-largest airport was particularly troublesome for those hoping to head to the East Coast or across the Pacific Ocean.

About 1,550 flights with 167,000 passengers were affected, airport spokeswoman Nancy Castles said in a statement Saturday.

Of those, 724 were scheduled arrivals with an estimated 67,850 passengers and 826 were departures with an estimated 99,200 passengers on board. The situation was improving by Saturday. Dan-

iel Baker, CEO of flight tracking site FlightAware, said in an email Saturday that there were "no notable delays" and 28 cancellations related to the LAX shooting.

After Friday's shooting, flights bound for Los Angeles that had not yet taken off were held at their gates for hours by the Federal Aviation Administration. The so-called ground stop lasted several hours. Some flights already in the air were allowed to land at LAX, while others diverted to nearby airports. Some passengers who landed at LAX after the shooting spent at least two hours sitting on planes parked in a remote corner of the airport.

The ripple effect was felt across the country.

Tasi Lua arrived at LAX after the shooting Friday, but was unable to board his flight to Denver. He found a corner in Terminal 2, plugged in his laptop and cellphone and slept on the floor.

"I'm used to traveling, and things happening. It wasn't too bad," said the 25-year-old. "I could see other people who weren't taking it as well."

Curbs on in-flight devices relaxed

By **HUGO MARTIN** and **W.J. HENNIGAN**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Score one for the weary air traveler.

Ever-increasing baggage fees, vanishing leg room and invasive security screening measures have made air travel hellish for millions of passengers. Now the government is giving fliers more screen time with their gadgets.

The Federal Aviation Administration announced Thursday that it will ease restrictions on the use of portable electronic devices during takeoffs and landings. Within a few weeks, travelers will be able to operate their iPads, Kindles and even smartphones throughout a commercial flight, though phone calls will still be banned.

The agency has given in to the reality that most Americans aren't happy when denied these beloved digital companions, which pose little threat to safety on a plane, industry experts say.

About 90 percent of airline passengers board a plane packing hand-held devices and laptops, and at least 40 percent said they would like to use those

gadgets throughout the flight, according to a recent survey by the Consumer Electronics Association, a trade group for the electronics industry.

"The FAA had a blinding glimpse of the obvious," said Henry Hartevelt, a travel industry analyst with consulting firm Hudson Crossing. "It's nice for airlines to be able to give something back to their customers."

He estimates the rule change will give passengers an extra 35 to 40 minutes per flight with their devices.

For Ryan Middlekauff, the change in policy couldn't come soon enough.

"When I'm on a plane, I don't want to talk to anyone," said the L.A. mortgage banker. "Just let me plug in and leave me alone."

But the FAA made it clear that cell phone calls from a plane are still forbidden because of concerns that cell signals might interfere with communications systems.

The rule against using handheld electronic devices on commercial flights has its roots in the early 1960s — an era of transistor radios, rotary phones and record players. At the time, the FAA was worried that sig-

nals could meddle with an aircraft's avionics.

The rule, which previously called for passengers to pocket their devices on takeoffs and landings, until an airliner hits 10,000 feet, has been altered and updated over the years. But it wasn't until the recent rise in the popularity of digital technology that the FAA considered lifting the outdated restrictions.

Under the new rule, passengers will be able to use devices that are switched to "airplane mode" and are not emitting a signal.

Not everyone is happy with the change.

Pilots worry that passengers won't shut their devices down during emergencies. The Air Line Pilots Association, the world's largest pilot union that represents nearly 50,000 pilots, said it is concerned about relying on passengers to selectively turn off their devices during times of extremely poor weather.

It "is not a practical solution," the association said in a statement. "We urge passengers to realize the potential seriousness of using a device at a time when any crew member—pilot or flight attendant—has advised them that it is unsafe to do so."

Up in the air

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has expanded the use of portable electronics on flights.

Current rules

- Required to turn devices off when the plane's doors close; may restart them when plane reaches 10,000 ft. (3,048 m); must be off during descent

New rules



- Use of smartphone, tablet and e-reader allowed in all phases of flights
- Must be in airplane mode

Still prohibited

- No voice or cellular data
- Laptops during takeoff, descent



© 2013 MCT
Source: U.S. Department of Transportation
Graphic: Melina Yingling

Some flight attendants and travelers predict more delays and frustration caused by fliers who stumble onto planes with their eyes glued to a touch screen.

Nation

Gunman told police he acted alone in LAX shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The gunman charged in the deadly shooting at Los Angeles International Airport lay bloodied and handcuffed on the floor of Terminal 3 after being gunned down by police, but he replied to critical questions that helped authorities lock down the scene.

Paul Ciancia, 23, was hauled away moments later on a stretcher and later heavily sedated for medical reasons, but not before he told investigators he had acted alone when he opened fire in the terminal, a law enforcement official who has been briefed on the investigation told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Ciancia, an unemployed motorcycle mechanic who recently moved to Los Angeles from the small, blue-collar town of Pennsville, N.J., also told police a friend had dropped him at LAX on Friday just moments before he shot a Transportation Security Administration officer at point-blank range and wounded three other people, including two more TSA workers.

Officials do not believe that the friend knew of the shooter's plans. Ciancia arrived at the airport in a black Hyundai and was not a ticketed passenger.

Ciancia was under 24-hour armed guard at the hospital Sunday after being shot four times, the official said. He was sedated for medical reasons, the official said, adding that one gunshot to the mouth blew a molar out of his jaw.

Ciancia is facing charges of murder of a federal officer and committing violence at an international airport. The charges could qualify him for the death penalty. It wasn't immediately clear when he would make a first court appearance given his medical condition.

In court documents and interviews, authorities spelled out a chilling chain of events, saying Ciancia walked into the airport, pulled a .223-caliber assault rifle from his duffel bag and fired repeatedly at 39-year-old TSA officer Gerardo I. Hernandez. He turned back to see Hernandez move and returned to finish him off, according to surveillance video reviewed by investigators.

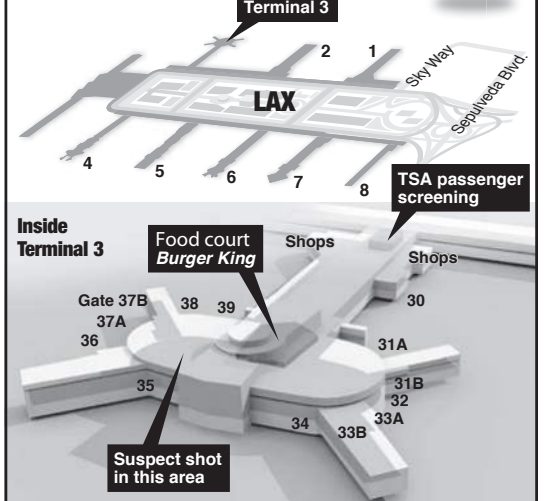


Transportation Security Administration employees help passengers getting back their luggage at Los Angeles International Airport's Terminal 3 on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013.

Airport shooting

A shooting at Los Angeles International Airport prompted evacuations of portions of the airport and grounding of flights.

- About 9:20 a.m. PT man with firearm approaches checkpoint in Terminal 3 and opens fire
- TSA agent shot dead at checkpoint
- Six people taken to hospital
- One suspect in custody



Source: Los Angeles International Airport, Los Angeles Times
Graphic: Javier Zarracina, Raoul Ranao, Lorena Iniguez, Los Angeles Times and Melina Yingling, MCT

Slain LAX TSA officer remembered as a family man

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Friends and family remembered slain Transportation Security Administration officer Gerardo I. Hernandez as a family man who constantly smiled at travelers passing through the Los Angeles airport.

"He was always excited to go to work and enjoyed the interactions with the passengers at LAX," said his wife, Ana. "He was a joyful person, always smiling. He took pride in his duty for the American public and for the TSA mission."

Ana Hernandez made the short statement Saturday in front of the couple's house in Porter Ranch in the San Fernando Valley. Her hands shook and her voice cracked as she read off a folded piece of paper, stopping at times.

"Gerardo was a great man

who always showed his love for our family. He was always there to help anyone in need and always made people laugh with his wonderful sense of humor," she said.

Hernandez was the first TSA official in the agency's 12-year history to be killed in the line of duty.

Authorities said 23-year-old Paul Ciancia walked into Terminal 3 on Friday, pulled an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle from his duffel bag and starting firing at TSA officers.

Hernandez, who had worked at LAX since 2010, was mortally wounded. His 40th birthday was next week.

Two other TSA officers were also hit. Both were



Hernandez

treated at the hospital and released.

Airport officers worked hard to save Hernandez, giving him first aid before paramedics arrived and bringing him out in a wheelchair to the ambulance, LAX Police Chief Patrick Gannon said.

TSA Administrator John Pistole offered condolences to Hernandez's wife and children Saturday, spending about 30 minutes at the family's home. Pistole said the agency would review its policy on officer safety.

TSA officers are "the first line of defense" in airport security, he said, pledging that the agency would do everything possible to make sure Friday's tragedy was never repeated.

The 100-foot pylons that

mark the symbolic gateway to the airport, the nation's third-busiest, were lit blue in honor of Hernandez. Fellow TSA and law enforcement officers wore black mourning bands.

Born in El Salvador, Hernandez was the youngest of four boys. He moved to the United States when he was 15. Four years later, he met his wife, and they married on Valentine's Day in 1998. Friend and former TSA co-worker Kevin Maxwell said Hernandez was a family man.

"All he talked about was his family," Maxwell told KNBC-TV. "He was very proud of his son, who played football."

Neighbor Ken Wong told KCBS-TV: "Here's a man who was trying to serve his country, do his job well and support his family, and this is a senseless thing that happened."

employees and that he wanted to "instill fear in their traitorous minds," FBI Agent in Charge David L. Bowdich said.

"Black, white, yellow, brown, I don't discriminate," the note

read, according to a paraphrase by a law enforcement official briefed on the investigation. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly.

The screed also mentioned "fiat currency" and "NWO," possible references to the New World Order, a conspiracy theory that foresees a totalitarian one-world government.

The letter also talked about "how easy it is to get a gun into the airport," the law enforcement official said.

When searched, the suspect had five 30-round magazines, and his bag contained hundreds more rounds in boxes.

U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said on CNN's State of the Union on Sunday that Ciancia's actions show how difficult it is to protect travelers at a massive airport such as LAX.

The terminals are open and easily accessible to thousands of people who arrive at large sliding glass doors via a broad ring road that fronts the facility and is designed to move people along quickly.

1 shot at North Carolina A&T State University

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)—Shots fired on homecoming weekend at North Carolina A&T State University prompted a brief campus lockdown after a 21-year-old man was wounded by a bullet fired from a "considerable distance," authorities said.

Greensboro Police Department said in overnight statements that "one or more" suspects fired shots in a grassy area

near McCain Hall on campus about 10 p.m. Saturday and one of the rounds struck 21-year-old Devine Eatmon. Authorities said they were seeking four suspects believed armed with handguns.

Eatmon appeared to have serious, but non-life-threatening wounds when he was found on a sidewalk and taken by paramedics to a hospital, according to the police statement released by Police Lieut. J.L. Raines.

The statement didn't elaborate on just how far Eatmon was from where the round was fired that hit him, or whether anyone had been deliberately targeted.

Police issued a subsequent statement early Sunday saying they had given an incorrect spelling of Eatmon's first and last names hours earlier and said the error was due to limited information available to them at the time.

Greensboro and campus police initially responded to the site and a lockdown was ordered. The university's website announced about an hour later that the lockdown had been lifted, but had encouraged students "for increased safety" to stay indoors after it was over.

The university tweeted on its website that campus police subsequently had gone on "visible" and "high alert."

Taylor Brunner was quoted by The News-Record newspaper as saying she heard several shots.

"The shooting started. I turned around and a lot of people were running," said Brunner, described as a freshman university student by the paper.

Samantha Hargrove, a university spokeswoman, told the paper that Eatmon was taken to Moses Cone Hospital.

A hospital dispatcher, contacted by The Associated Press, said it had no information to re-

lease. Hargrove didn't immediately return email and telephone messages seeking comment.

The university's website said a week of events for students and alumni led up to a homecoming parade, football game and homecoming concert earlier Saturday.

Traffic was rerouted in the immediate area after the shooting, police said. News photographs later showed law enforcement officers standing about a site cordoned off by yellow tape.

Asia

Militant's death brings little joy in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The Pakistani Taliban leader killed in a recent U.S. drone strike was behind hotel bombings, assaults on political rallies, beheadings of policemen and suicide attacks on soldiers. But his death elicited little joy in the country where he wreaked most of his havoc and instead stirred widespread anger and suspicion.

At the time of Friday's strike targeting Hakimullah Mehsud, the Pakistani government was engaged in efforts to negotiate a peace deal with militants. Frustrated at years of military campaigns that have failed to end the bloodshed, many Pakistanis had high hopes for this latest peace effort and blame the U.S. for fouling it up.

Mehsud "should have been given the chance to negotiate, and now the consequences have to be borne by Pakistan, not the U.S.," said Syed Ahmed, a small business owner in the southern port city of Karachi.

Also contributing to the anger are fears of a bloody backlash, plus a web of complex conspiracy theories, including the idea that militants such as Mehsud are American or Indian pawns intent on weakening Pakistan.

For years, Pakistan has been fighting militants in the tribal areas that border neighboring Afghanistan, with thousands of civilians and security forces dying in bombings and shootings at the hands of militants.

Mehsud, who had a reputation as an especially ruthless warrior, was the leader of the Pakistani Taliban, or the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, as it calls itself. The TTP is an umbrella group encompassing militant organizations across the tribal areas. It has called for the overthrow of the Pakistani government, the implementation of hard-line Islamic law and an end to cooperation with the Americans in Afghanistan.

In many ways, people across

Pakistan are echoing what they are hearing from politicians and top government officials. During a news conference Saturday, Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan lashed out repeatedly at the U.S., which he said was trying to scuttle peace talks.

Imran Khan, the former cricket star who now leads a key opposition party, threatened to close NATO supply lines in

retaliation for the drone attack.

The U.S. and Pakistan are wary allies in the war against militancy. Suspicion in Pakistan against America runs deep, fueled by a perception that Pakistan's militancy problems were foisted on it by the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, which pushed militants into the tribal areas of northwestern Pakistan. Many Pakistanis question why Pakistan, a predominantly Mus-

lim country, is at war with other Muslims and its own citizens.

Amir Sultan, a salesman at a garment business in Islamabad, said whenever Pakistan starts efforts to make peace with the Taliban, America sabotages it.

"It is an American agenda to destroy Pakistan," he said. "It is in America's interest to pit Muslim against Muslims."

There is also suspicion that the U.S. and neighboring In-

dia—a longtime enemy—are directly promoting and funding militants as a way to weaken the country. In the eastern city of Lahore, where that feeling is especially prevalent, lawyer Masood Wattoo blamed the U.S. and India for a recent string of bombings in the northwest, including a suicide attack on a church full of worshippers.

"It was the handiwork of America and India," he said.



In this file image taken on Oct. 4, 2009, Pakistan's new Taliban leader Hakimullah Mehsud, center, operates light machine gun with his comrades in Sararogha in Pakistani tribal area of South Waziristan along Afghanistan border.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NATO soldier, 2 Afghan police officers killed

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says a foreign soldier has been killed in an attack in eastern Afghanistan, while authorities say two officers have been killed in separate shootings in the country's south. A NATO statement says that the soldier was shot dead Sunday. It did not say where the shooting happened, nor did it give the nationality of the soldier killed in the attack. In southern Uruzgan province, police spokesman Fared Ayel said a group of insurgents attacked a police checkpoint in the Dehrawod district Sunday morning. The spokesman says one officer and four insurgents were killed in the attack, which also wounded four.

Beijing park investigates deaths of stray cats

BEIJING (AP)—Officials at a famous Beijing park said Sunday that they were investigating the mysterious deaths of stray cats in recent weeks, as protesters accused park authorities of killing the animals. The Temple of Heaven park has stepped up patrols in an effort to prevent more deaths and cat carcasses from being dumped inside, said a park spokesman. The spokesman, who gave only his surname, Xing, said he didn't know how many dead cats had been found, and that it was unclear whether they had died inside or outside the park. He said dead stray cats had also been found in other areas close to the large park, a UNESCO heritage site where emperors in the Ming and Qing dynasties

offered sacrifices.

Indonesia volcano erupts again, forces evacuations

MEDAN, Indonesia (AP)—A volcano in western Indonesia erupted again Sunday, unleashing volcanic ash high into the sky and forcing the evacuation of villagers living around its slope. Officials raised Mount Sinabung's alert status to the second-highest level after the 2,600-meter (8,530-foot) -high mountain erupted early Sunday, said National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho. Authorities were working to evacuate residents from four North Sumatra province villages located within the mountain's three-kilometer (two-mile) danger zone, Nugroho said. About 1,300 villagers have been relocated to safer areas so far.

Swedish climber falls to death on New Zealand peak

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A Swedish man who was climbing and skiing on New Zealand's tallest mountain has fallen to his death. Police say 32-year-old Magnus Kastengren fell about 600 meters (2,000 feet) Sunday while he and climbing partner Andreas Fransson were ski traversing near the lower summit of Mount Cook. The mountain is also known by its indigenous Maori name, Aoraki. Police say Fransson was not injured and has now left the country bound for Sweden. Police say the pair were experienced climbers and conditions were good at the time of the accident.

Boat carrying 70 Muslim Rohingya sinks off Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A boat carrying at least 70 Muslim Rohingya capsized and sank Sunday off the western coast of Myanmar, an aid worker said. Only eight survivors have been found.

The boat was in the Bay of Bengal and headed for Bangladesh when it went down early Sunday, said Abdul Melik, who works for a humanitarian organization in the region.

The incident comes after the United Nations warned that an annual and often deadly exodus of desperate people from Myanmar's Rakhine state appears to have begun. The exodus usually kicks off in November, when seas begin to calm following the annual monsoon.

As many as 1,500 people have fled in the last week, Dan McNorton, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commission for Refugees, said at a press briefing Saturday in Geneva.

He said the agency had received several reports of drownings and was seeking details from authorities.

In Sunday's incident, Melik said the wooden boat, which

was carrying at least 70 Rohingya from Ohn Taw Gyi village, left at around 3 a.m. and broke apart about four hours later. Women, children and babies were among those on board.

Family members and friends were scouring the Bay of Bengal and coastlines for survivors, but so far only eight survivors

have been found, he said.

It was not immediately clear whether any bodies had been recovered.

Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist nation of 60 million, has been gripped by sectarian violence in the last 18 months, leaving more than 240 people dead and causing 250,000 to flee from

their homes. Most of the victims have been Rohingya, a long persecuted Muslim minority in the country, with Buddhist mobs chasing them down with machetes, iron chains and bamboo clubs.

The U.N. says it expects this year's exodus to be on one of the biggest on record because of the violence.

6 tourists killed in ferry accident in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—An overcrowded tourist ferry capsized and sank near a popular Thai seaside town on Sunday, killing six tourists, including two Russians and a Chinese, police said. The rest of the roughly 200 people aboard were rescued.

The double-decker ferry, carrying Thai and foreign tourists, left Lan island for the 30-minute trip to the resort town of Pattaya on Sunday evening, said police Col. Suwan Cheawnvithavut. Shortly after the boat departed, an engine problem sent the passengers on the first deck rushing to the second floor, causing the ferry to flip on its

side and eventually sink.

"Witnesses said there were neither enough tubes nor life vests on the ferry. Some of those who cannot swim had to cling onto coolers or ice containers until rescuers came," Suwan said by phone.

He said the foreigners who died were a Russian man, a Russian woman and a Chinese man. Three Thais—two women and a man—also were killed. The rest of the passengers were rescued, including a 12-year-old Russian boy who was in intensive care at a hospital. None of the others were hospitalized.

Suwan said the ferry was

operating over its capacity of about 130 to 150 passengers. He said police were looking for the ferry driver to investigate the cause of the accident.

Pattaya, which is about 100 kilometers (60 miles) southeast of Bangkok, has had several fatal boat accidents this year. Last month, an Indian tourist celebrating her wedding anniversary was killed in a parasailing accident off the town's coast. In August, two Chinese tourists were killed in a speed boat accident near Pattaya's main pier.

Lan island is a popular day-trip destination among tourists near Pattaya.

World

Egypt changes venue for trial of ousted president

CAIRO (AP)—Egyptian authorities on Sunday moved the trial of the ousted Islamist president to a new location at another end of the capital, a move apparently aimed at thwarting mass rallies planned by the Muslim Brotherhood in his support when it opens on Monday.

Facing charges of incitement of violence with 14 others in connection to clashes last December, Mohammed Morsi has been held at an undisclosed location since his July 3 overthrow by the military. The trial will be his first public appearance since then, possibly enflaming an already tense political atmosphere as animosity between Morsi's Islamist supporters and Egypt's security establishment steadily deepens.

"For (the Islamists) it will be like taking revenge on the police and the military," said lawyer Khaled Abu-Bakr, representing three victims of the December clashes. "I really hope that no blood is spilled tomorrow," he added.

The change of the venue was announced at a tumultuous news conference by appeals court judge Medhat Idris, who threw his statement in the air and stormed out of the room when Morsi supporters shouted in protest at the change.

He later told The Associated Press by telephone that the trial will not be aired live. Other details about the proceedings, including where Morsi will be held during them, remain secret.

A security official said Morsi



Supporter of Egypt's ousted President Mohammed Morsi march during a protest a day before the trial of the former president taking place at a police academy in an eastern Cairo district, in Egypt, Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013.

will probably be taken back to the place he has been held instead of being transferred to a normal prison after the first session, for fear his supporters would turn the prison into a "focal point of endless protests."

The new venue is a heavily fortified police academy in an eastern Cairo suburb, already used for the trial of an-

other former president—Hosni Mubarak—toppled in a 2011 uprising. He is accused of failing to stop the killing of protesters.

Egypt witnessed one of its worst bouts of violence in decades on Aug. 14, when security forces violently cleared protest camps set up by Morsi supporters, sparking days of unrest that left more than 1,000 dead. Since

then, violent incidents have multiplied: a suicide car bomber tried to assassinate Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim in September, and dozens of members of the security forces have been killed in a string of drive-by shootings, explosions and car bombs. Churches have been torched, and in an attack in Cairo last month, five Copts

and one Muslim were killed in drive-by shooting at a church.

Both government officials and Morsi's supporters forecast bleak scenarios for Monday, with each side accusing the other of plotting killings, including that of Morsi himself.

A senior Interior Ministry official told the AP his ministry had received information that

Brotherhood supporters will engage in acts of violence, "including assassinations of top religious figures, suicide attacks and targeting military facilities."

"We expect a kind of hysteria and rioting when Morsi shows up in court," he added.

A Brotherhood-led group has called for mass rallies, while the interior minister has ordered the deployment of large numbers of security forces to guard the trial venue.

In recent statements, a coalition led by Morsi's Brotherhood described the trial as a "farce" and reiterated that it regarded him as the "elected, legitimate president" of Egypt. "This is a naive tool to break our will and our determination," it said Sunday.

Shaimaa Awad, a member of the group's political party, said it envisages several scenarios for the day of the trial. One of them, she said, sees the authorities bringing in Morsi for a swift and a secretive session. The second scenario, she said the group fears, is that authorities exploit the protests in order to create chaos and "liquidate Morsi."

"There is real fear Morsi would be assassinated during violence, and protesters depicted as trying to break into the courtroom," she said.

"We know our presence could backfire, but we cannot simply not go. We have to be there. When you know that your president is brought in to be humiliated, you ought to be outside to show that he is not alone," she added.

France: Journalists killed in Mali were shot

PARIS (AP)—Two veteran French journalists kidnapped and killed in northern Mali were shot to death, French authorities said Sunday, as questions emerged about how the gunmen managed to carry out the attack near a town where both French troops and U.N. forces are based.

The slayings of Ghislaine Dupont, 51, and Claude Verlon, 58, shocked France and underscored how insecure parts of northern Mali remain months after a French-led military intervention against al-Qaida and other extremists.

The new details, shared by French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius after a meeting of key ministers with French President Francois Hollande, failed to clarify who was behind the killings and why the pair was targeted.

He said the two were shot multiple times and their bodies found near the vehicle that whisked them away. Earlier, four Malian officials, including the head of the armed forces in Kidal said the journalists' throats had been slit.

Their bodies were flown to the Malian capital of Bamako on Sunday, and were to be returned to France on Monday.



This combination of undated photos provided by Radio France International shows journalists Ghislaine Dupont, left, and Claude Verlon.

The Radio France International journalists were kidnapped Saturday after interviewing a Tuareg rebel leader in Kidal. The northern town is under de facto rebel control despite the presence of French and U.N. troops.

French troops, alerted to the kidnappings, set up checkpoints, sent out patrols and called in helicopters to search for the journalists, French military spokesman Col. Gilles Jaron said.

But a patrol arrived too late, finding the abandoned vehicle east of the town and the bodies nearby. The French troops, some 200 of whom are based at the Kidal airport, had earlier found no trace of the fleeing vehicle.

Fabius said the bodies were found some 12 kilometers (8 miles) outside Kidal and "several meters" from the vehicle. RFI chief Marie-Christine Saragosse said they were found 80 meters (87 feet) from the kidnappers' vehicle.

The killings were "odious, abject and revolting," Fabius said. He said one journalist had been hit with three bullets, the other two—but that the car, whose doors were locked, showed no impact from bullets.

Cecile Megie, RFI's executive editor, said the two journalists had been seized by a group that spirited them away in a beige pickup truck.

White House, lawmakers: no clemency for Snowden

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House and the leaders of the intelligence committee in Congress are rejecting National Security Agency-contractor Edward Snowden's plea for clemency.

"Mr. Snowden violated U.S. law," White House adviser Dan Pfeiffer said Sunday about the former systems-analyst-turned-fugitive who has temporary asylum in Russia.

"He should return to the U.S. and face justice," Pfeiffer said, adding when pressed that no offers for clemency were being discussed.

Snowden made the plea in a letter given to a German politician and released Friday. In his one-page typed letter, he asks for clemency for charges over allegedly leaking classified information about the NSA to the news media. "Speaking the truth is not a crime," Snowden wrote.

Snowden's revelations, including allegations that the U.S. has eavesdropped on allies including German Chancellor Angela Merkel, have led to calls by allies to cease such spying, and moves by Congress to overhaul U.S. surveillance laws and curb the agency's powers.

But head of the Senate In-

telligence Committee said if Snowden had been a true whistleblower, he could have reported it to her committee privately.

"That didn't happen, and now he's done this enormous disservice to our country," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif. "I think the answer is no clemency."

The chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Rep. Mike Rogers, called clemency for Snowden a "terrible idea."

"He needs to come back and own up," said Rogers, R-Mich.

"If he believes there's vulnerabilities in the systems he'd like to disclose, you don't do it by committing a crime that actually puts soldiers' lives at risk in places like Afghanistan."

Rogers contended that Snowden's revelations had caused three terrorist organizations to change how they communicate.

Both lawmakers addressed word that President Barack Obama did not realize Merkel's personal phone was being tapped.



In this video frame grab provided by LifeNews via Russia 24 TV channel, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, former National Security Agency systems analyst Edward Snowden looks over his shoulder during a boat trip on the Moscow River in Moscow, with the Christ the Savior Cathedral in the background.

Focus

Obama's health law finally gets real for America

WASHINGTON (AP)—Now is when Americans start figuring out that President Barack Obama's health care law goes beyond political talk, and really does affect them and people they know.

With a cranky federal website complicating access to new coverage and some consumers being notified their existing plans are going away, the potential for winners and losers is creating anxiety and confusion.

"I've had questions like, 'Are they going to put me in jail if I don't buy insurance? Because nobody will sell it to me,'" said Bonnie Burns, a longtime community-level insurance counselor from California. "We have family members who are violently opposed to 'Obamacare' and they are on Medicaid—they don't understand that they're already covered by taxpayer benefits.

"And then there is a young man with lupus who would have never been insurable," Burns continued. "He is on his parents' plan and he'll be able to buy his own coverage. They are very relieved."

A poll just out from the non-partisan Kaiser Family Foundation documents shifts in the country in the month since insurance sign-ups began.

Fifty-five percent now say they have enough information to understand the law's impact on their family, up 8 percentage points in just one month. Part of the reason is that advertising about how to get coverage is beginning to register.

"The law is getting more and more real for people," said Drew Altman, the foundation's president. "A lot of this will turn on whether there's a perception that there have been more winners than losers. ... It's not whether an expert thinks something is a better insurance policy, it's whether people perceive it that way."

The administration is continuing efforts to influence those perceptions. On Wednesday, Obama will meet with volunteers in Dallas who are helping people enroll in health insurance plans. Cabinet officials are also expected to make stops around the country in the coming weeks to encourage people to sign up for insurance even as the website problems persist.

A look at three groups impacted by the law's rollout:

LOSING CURRENT PLAN

The Obama administration insists nobody will lose coverage as a result of cancellation notices going out to millions of people. At least 3.5 million Americans have been issued cancellations, but the exact number is unclear. Associated Press checks find that data is unavailable in a half the states.

Mainly they are people who buy directly from an insurer, in-

Federal insurance website plagued by problems

Healthcare.gov, the federal website designed to allow people to buy health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, has been hampered by technical problems since Oct. 1, when consumers could first try to buy insurance through the site. President Barack Obama said Monday there is "no excuse for the problems."

States served by Healthcare.gov

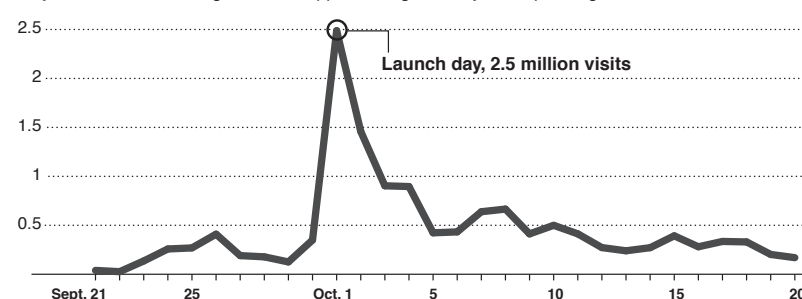
Thirty-six states are served by the federal site; number includes the 34 states that elected to let the federal government run their exchanges as well as Idaho and New Mexico, which are using the site for the first year



Source: Tribune Newspapers, Kaiser Family Foundation, comScore, Washington Post-ABC News Graphic: Chicago Tribune

Web traffic to Healthcare.gov

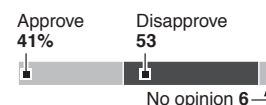
Daily visits to healthcare.gov have dropped off significantly since peaking Oct. 1, in millions

**What Users Did**

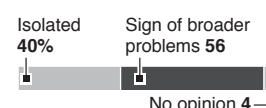
Unique visitors for week ending:	Click on "Get insurance"	Create account, attempt login	Last step of account creation	Successful login to account	Identification verification pre-application
Oct. 6	2.7 million	2.2 million	272,815	125,544	115,302
Oct. 13	1.2 million	1.1 million	497,816	423,593	286,561
Oct. 20	617,752	652,678	170,762	352,961	154,941

Poll: Health care law

Q: Do you approve or disapprove of the way Obama is handling implementation of the new health care law?



Q: Do you think (website problems) are an isolated incident or a sign of broader problems in implementing the health care law?



NOTE: Washington Post-ABC News poll Oct. 17-20, of 1,002 adults; margin of error: +/-3.5 percentage points

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President Barack Obama signs the "I Love Obamacare" cast of Cathey Park of Cambridge, Mass., after he spoke at Boston's historic Faneuil Hall about the federal health care law, Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2013.

stead of having workplace coverage. Officials say these consumers aren't getting "canceled" but "transitioned" or "migrated" to better plans because their current coverage doesn't meet minimum standards. They won't have to go uninsured, and some could save a lot if they qualify for the law's tax credits.

Speaking in Boston's historic Faneuil Hall this past week, Obama said the problem is limited to fewer than 5 percent of Americans "who've got cut-rate plans that don't offer real financial protection in the event of a serious illness or an accident."

But in a nation of more than 300 million, 5 percent is a big number—about 15 million people. Among them are Ian and Sara Hodge of Lancaster, Pa., in their early 60s and paying \$1,041 a month for a policy.

After insurer Highmark, Inc., sent the Hodes a cancellation notice, the cheapest rate they say they've been able to find is

\$1,400 for a comparable plan. Ian is worried they may not qualify for tax credits, and doesn't trust that the federal website is secure enough to enter personal financial information in order to find out.

"We feel like we're being punished for doing the right thing," he said.

Their policy may not have met the government's standards, "but it certainly met our minimum standards," Hodge added.

"The main thing that upsets us is the president ... said over and over and over again: If you like your health plan, you will be able to keep your health plan, guaranteed."

There's a chance the number of people getting unwanted terminations may grow. In 2015, the law's requirement that larger companies provide health insurance will take effect. It's expected that a small share of firms will drop coverage, deciding that it's cheaper to pay fines imposed under the law.

GAINING COVERAGE

Before the law's online health care markets launched Oct. 1, the administration estimated nearly 500,000 people would enroll for subsidized private insurance within the first month. Despite high consumer interest, a computer system beset by gremlins has kept most from doing so.

The administration refuses to release enrollment numbers until mid-November, when a crash program of computer fixes may be showing results. The numbers are expected to be disappointingly low; officials acknowledge as much.

A different prong of Obama's coverage expansion seems to be doing fairly well. It's an expanded version of Medicaid, embraced so far by 25 states and the District of Columbia. An informal survey of 14 of those states by The Associated Press shows that at least 240,000 people had enrolled in or applied for the expanded

safety-net program as of the third week of October.

Private coverage is what interests Cecilia Fontenot of Houston, a part-time accountant in her early 60s. She has diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Though she manages well, she has been unable to find affordable insurance. Under Obama's law, insurers will not be able to turn away people with medical problems or charge them more.

Fontenot gave up on Healthcare.gov and instead applied through a call center on Oct. 19. "They said it may take a while because so many people had called in," Fontenot explained. "I'm a very patient person, and I'm looking forward to getting that insurance."

She wants a plan that covers a better diabetes drug than the one she can afford now by paying out of pocket. Her doctor has also recommended a high-tech imaging test for a breast lump.

WONDERING WHETHER COVERAGE WILL CHANGE

Americans are still divided over the Affordable Care Act, with negative views outweighing positives. But they also lean against repealing it. The final judgment may be in the hands of people who now have employer-provided health insurance. They're about half the population, and they've noted Obama's assurances that their coverage won't be disrupted.

Up to now, the changes for employer plans have been incremental. They tend to expand benefits, not take things away.

For example, young adults can stay on a parent's coverage until they turn 26. Employers cover women's birth control as a preventive service, free of charge. Screening tests such as colonoscopies are also free.

But cost control provisions, mainly a tax on expensive insurance plans that starts in 2018, are converging with the long-standing push by employers to tame health costs. Some companies have raised deductibles and copayments for employees, saying they need to scale back to avoid tangling with the coming tax. Others are giving employees a fixed amount of money to shop in private health insurance markets that resemble those created by the law.

Expect cutbacks to be blamed on the law. Sorting out whether that's warranted may be difficult.

"What the Affordable Care Act did was give companies a very convenient excuse to say 'Oh, gosh, we really have to get serious about insurance costs,'" said Paul Keckley, an independent health benefits consultant. "I think there's a bit of a bob and weave. The ACA was a convenient excuse for doing what (corporate) human resources departments have been calculating to do for years."

Overdrive

Shutdown slows—but doesn't halt—US car demand

DETROIT (AP)—The government shutdown dampened—but didn't stall—Americans' demand for new cars and trucks.

The 16-day shutdown slowed U.S. auto sales in the first two weeks of October, but they picked up speed in the last two weeks. Sales rose 11 percent to 1.2 million.

General Motors, Ford, Nissan and Chrysler all recorded double-digit sales gains, while Toyota, Honda and Hyundai saw smaller increases. Of major automakers, only Volkswagen's sales fell.

Stable fuel prices, low interest rates and the increased availability of credit pushed people to buy regardless of the political wrangling, said Kurt McNeil, GM's vice president of U.S. sales.

"All those things that have been driving the economy? They're still there," he said.

Pickup trucks sold well as business improved for contractors and other workers. Sales of the Chevrolet Silverado, GM's top selling vehicle, jumped 10 percent to nearly 43,000, and Chrysler's Ram truck was up 18 percent. Sales of Ford's F-Series pickups rose 13 percent and topped 60,000 for the sixth month in a row.

SUV sales were also strong. Sales of Nissan's Pathfinder, which was recently redesigned, nearly doubled from last October. Sales of the Chevrolet Tahoe



In this Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, file photo, Chevy trucks line the lot of a dealer in Murrysville, Pa. AP

and Suburban large SUVs both jumped more than 50 percent.

The weak spot was small cars and hybrids, which have been struggling to win buyers as gas prices fall. Gas prices averaged \$3.27 per gallon at the end of October, the lowest level of the year. The national average has dropped 31 cents since Labor Day, according to AAA.

Toyota Prius hybrid sales fell 7 percent while the Chevrolet Volt plug-in hybrid was down 32 percent. The tiny Fiat 500 fell 36 percent.

Sales of Ford's Focus small car were down 17 percent,

while its C-Max small hybrid fell 20 percent. Ford recently announced plans to idle the Michigan factory where those vehicles are made for two weeks this fall because of weak demand.

U.S. consumers have started to gradually shift from smaller, more fuel-efficient cars to larger vehicles, said Jesse Toprak, an analyst with the TrueCar.com auto pricing web site.

Stable gas prices aren't the only reason, he said. Cheap financing and sweet lease deals have made larger vehicles more affordable, cutting the monthly

payments so people can afford them even if gas prices go up.

"History has shown us that consumers in the U.S. would rather buy a larger vehicle given the choice," Toprak said.

Here are the October results announced Friday:

■ Detroit: GM's sales rose 16 percent, with increases in all of its brands. GM's revamped Chevrolet Malibu midsize car was up 64 percent, while sales of the Cadillac ATS small car more than doubled. Ford's sales increased 14 percent. Sales of the Ford Fusion midsize sedan jumped 71 percent over last October after Ford add-

big SUVs for profits.

The Escape is close to out-selling Honda's CR-V, the long-time segment leader, for the second time in three years. Escape sales have grown 14 percent this year, almost twice as fast as the CR-V. Honda sold 251,636 CR-Vs through October; the Escape was next at 250,543. General Motors' Chevrolet Equinox ranked third at 202,583, followed by the RAV4 at 177,832.

Subaru introduced a reworked Forester in the spring. It's bigger inside than the old model, and gets better gas mileage. It was Subaru's top-selling vehicle last month, and U.S. sales are up 57 percent this year to 96,953.

"We're a roomy five-passenger car as opposed to a four-passenger car that you could squeeze five passengers into," says Kirk Schneider, who owns a Subaru dealer in Salt Lake City.

Analysts expect the crossovers to maintain their popularity, although they'll soon face new challengers.

Jeff Schuster, senior vice president of forecasting for LMC, sees growth in small crossover sales leveling off as automakers roll out more "multi-activity vehicles," such as the Mazda 5. Those are boxier people haulers that sit lower to the ground than crossovers and in some models have three rows of seats.



In this Friday, Oct. 25, 2013 photo, Kirk Schneider, who owns Nate Wade Subaru in Salt Lake City, stands by a Subaru Forester at his dealership, in Salt Lake City. AP

■ They get better gas mileage than big cars or SUVs, and they're more maneuverable and easier to park. That appeals to downsizing baby boomers.

■ They sit higher, giving drivers a better view than cars. They have more room for kids in the back seat than the compact cars they're based on.

■ With a big hatch and cargo compartment behind the rear seat, there's room for dogs, golf clubs or bicycles.

■ Crossovers are generally cheaper than truck-based SUVs or large cars, starting around \$19,000, although options can jack up the price. A loaded CR-V can run north of \$35,000.

"I just did not want to drive a big vehicle," says Carol Race,

66, of Winter Haven, Fla., who traded in a Mercury Grand Marquis large sedan for a smaller Ford Escape last summer.

"It's so nice to have that extra room in the garage," the elementary school secretary says.

Gas mileage also was important to Race. Her Escape gets 26 mpg in combined city-highway driving, while the Marquis got around 19.

Toyota started the segment with the RAV4 in 1995. The Japanese barely compete in the red-hot pickup market, so these vehicles complement their best-selling small and midsize cars. The Detroit automakers want to capture new buyers as they diversify their model lineups to rely less on pickup trucks and

ed a factory shift to handle strong demand. Chrysler's sales rose 11 percent, led by its two most profitable vehicles, the Ram pickup and Jeep Grand Cherokee SUV, which was up 20 percent.

■ Japan: Nissan's sales rose 14 percent to more than 91,000, an October record for the company. Toyota sales rose 9 percent, while Honda sales were up 7 percent. All three companies redesigned their small cars, so sales rose. Sales of Nissan's Sentra jumped 50 percent, Honda Civic sales improved by 32 percent and Toyota Corolla sales gained 13

percent. Also for Toyota, sales of the recently revamped Avalon sedan more than tripled. Honda's sales were up 7 percent, helped by strong sales of the new Acura RLX sedan and MDX SUV. Subaru sales jumped 32 percent as sales of the new Forester SUV more than doubled.

■ Others: Hyundai sales rose 7 percent as 2014 models of the Sonata sedan and Santa Fe SUV saw increased sales. Volkswagen's sales fell 18 percent compared with strong growth last year, as its aging cars struggle against newer rivals.

UNDER THE HOOD

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

this?—Daniel Stepnick

ANSWER: Daniel, your situation has to be very frustrating, but it does differ from Linda's Lucerne problem last week, as you can play detective to a much greater degree. Your Focus clearly has an intermittent open/high resistance electrical fault near the trunk of the tree—battery, terminal connections, cables, and battery junction box. You can aid the diagnostic process or possibly solve the issue yourself with some simple tests. Start by obtaining an inexpensive digital multimeter, such as Sears Craftsman DMM model MN16A, which you can find for less than \$30. Next, be sure both battery terminals and battery posts are shiny-clean and tight.

Next time the Focus acts up, immediately check for available voltage of about 12.6 volts across the battery terminals. I'm guessing this will be good—if not, it's a second devil-battery. Then touch any of the fuses within the battery junction box, in the left rear corner of engine compartment, with the red lead. Your black meter lead is connected to the negative battery terminal. Again, check for available voltage. If this test fails, the fault is between the battery's positive terminal and the junction box. I

If this tests OK, turn on the headlights and touch the red meter lead to the battery negative terminal post, and the black lead to shiny engine metal. If the meter reads a value that's not very close to zero, the ground connection between the battery and powertrain/body is faulty.

These tests can also be tried when the car is behaving, as you wiggle cables and connections—look closely for an abrupt downward or upward change in the meter readings. This will be easy to fix, once the measurements suggest the path.

QUESTION: Brad, we have a 2005 Ford Focus station wagon. About two years ago, some of the warning lights would flash on and off for a fraction of a second, about every two weeks or so. It then started doing it to all of the warning lights. Then one day we went into a food store, on the way there everything was normal. When we came out, the door would not unlock, had to use the key. Everything was dead, and the car would not even turn over. I checked the battery connections; they were clean and tight. I then figured I had an open circuit in the battery. I called AAA and was told that it would take about an hour for someone to come. After about 40 minutes, the radio started to play and the car started like normal. I got a new battery, and after a few months it started to act up again. The engine would cut out for a second or so every now and then, and warning lights would flash on and off.

I took it to a dealer, and it was normal driving there. They could not find anything wrong, except a ground that had a little corrosion on it. There were no faults on the computer, so they flashed the computer anyway. It was OK for several months.

Then on Oct. 22 when I was going to get gas, it started again. The engine would cut out for a fraction of a second, warning lights would flash, and the radio stations would change. I filled up the tank and got in the car, and everything was completely dead. I checked the battery connections, and they were all OK. I got back in the car and everything was normal.

I took the car to the Ford dealer. Again they checked it out, drove it around, checked the computer, no faults. Since they could not see the problem, they could not correct it. What could cause

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

DETROIT (AP)—Aging baby boomers. Couples with small kids. Single people with dogs.

All three groups love compact crossover SUVs, utility vehicles built mainly on small-car frames that are among the hottest-selling vehicles in the U.S.

So far this year, sales of the versatile, high-sitting hatchbacks such as the Honda CR-V, Ford Escape and Toyota RAV4 are up more than 20 percent.

From 2000 through last year, annual U.S. sales of small crossovers quadrupled, from just over 405,000 to well above 1.6 million, according to LMC Automotive, an industry data and research firm. Only their larger cousins, midsize crossovers such as the Toyota Highlander and Ford Edge, grew faster. This year, sales of small crossovers have already passed last year's record total of 1,656,497.

John Felice, Ford Motor Co.'s U.S. marketing and sales chief, said buyers have been moving to the small crossovers from other vehicles, a trend that has accelerated in the past three months.

"Some of the source of that shift has come from the car side of the business," he said, after Ford reported a 17 percent decline in sales of its Focus small car.

Dealers and small-crossover owners say the vehicles are appealing for a number of reasons:

Life & Style

Eminem, Swift top weird YouTube Music Awards

By CHRIS TALBOTT
AP MUSIC WRITER

Crying babies, Win Butler's Kanye moment, a faked double suicide, face painting, a makeup-free Lady Gaga in plaid and a trucker's cap. There were all kinds of unexpected moments on the first YouTube Music Awards, as imagined by Spike Jonze and carried off by the odd couple hosts Jason Schwartzman and Reggie Watts.

Eminem, Taylor Swift and Macklemore & Ryan Lewis were among the winners during Sunday night's live webcast from New York. But the awards were sort of beside the point as Jonze and others directed live videos with Eminem, Gaga, M.I.A. and rapper Earl Sweatshirt, and Schwartz-

man and Watts careened about the soundstage with only notecards to point the way.

Eminem was named artist of the year before performing a word-perfect version of his new lung-busting tour de force "Rap God," filmed in black and white. Swift's "I Knew You Were Trouble" won YouTube phenomenon and Macklemore and Lewis won YouTube breakthrough.

Actress Gina Gerwig kicked the awards off as the protagonist of a live video of Arcade Fire's "Afterlife," directed by Jonze. Gerwig appears to break up with her boyfriend, then expresses the emotions she's feeling in an interpretive dance that moves from apartment to forest to soundstage with a little visual trickery.

A short while later Schwartzman and Watts admitted they would be working the 90-minute show without a script—with just notecards standing between them and awkward pauses and brief

technical difficulties.

"This is all about anything happening," Schwartzman said, and it sort of did.

Arcade Fire frontman Win Butler stepped into the shot to take photos with his iPhone, the show's hosts ran through the crowd a few times, climbed a ladder, participated in face-painting, performed not one but two improvised songs and in the show's most awkward moment carried babies through the crowd and tried to interview Macklemore and Lewis as they cried.

"So do we get to keep the babies?" Macklemore asked.

Schwartzman said the night was about creativity, and it certainly was creative.

Earl Sweatshirt and fellow rapper Tyler, the Creator, performed their song "Sasquatch" in the midst of a mosh pit, using hand-held cameras to relay the frenetic experience. Lady Gaga went the opposite way, performing her new song "Dope" wearing just a black



This Sept. 10, 2010 file photo shows rapper Eminem performing at Yankee Stadium in New York.

cap, sunglasses and a plaid shirt. She sat alone at a piano, with the camera tight on her face. She removed the glasses to reveal tears on her face as she sang.

Avicii played the dumb hot guy part in a short film that concluded with a blood-spattered faked double suicide and Butler made a return to the stage when he jokingly interrupted as a group of Swift fans accepted her award, recreating the infamous moment when Kanye West rushed the stage during Swift's win at the MTV Video Music Awards.

"Not Taylor Swift," Butler said. "I'm gonna let you finish. Not Taylor Swift. The YouTube phenomenon of the year was definitely the 'Harlem Shake.' I don't know. No disrespect, but everybody knows that if you've ever been on YouTube, so whatever." He then dropped the mic and walked off stage.

Other winners included Girls' Generation, DeStorm and Lindsey Stirling and Pentatonix.

NEW YORK (AP)—The secretive street artist Banksy ended his self-announced month-long residency in New York City with a final piece of graffiti, a \$615,000 painting donated to charity and a debate: Is he a jerk or a genius?

Banksy, who created a new picture, video or prank every day of October somewhere in the city, spent his last day like thousands of graffiti artists before him: He tagged a building near a highway with his name in giant bubble letters. The twist was that these letters were actual bubbles: balloon-like inflatables stuck to a wall near the Long Island Expressway in Queens.

As if to underscore his dual identity as both a street punk and an art-world darling, he also donated a painting that was auctioned off Thursday night for \$615,000. The original painting first sold for \$50 at a Manhattan thrift shop that benefits Housing Works, an organization that fights homelessness and AIDS. Banksy added a Nazi soldier to the landscape scene and Housing Works sold it in an online auction.

Throughout his 31 days here, Banksy put pictures of his work on BanksyNY.com, with clues as to locations but nothing precise. That spawned a treasure hunt by fans who hunted the works down, shared locations via social media, then swarmed to see them.

But by the time Banksy was done, New Yorkers were divided in their opinions. Some tweeted "Go home, Banksy!" Others declared their admiration.

The turning point for many was an essay he wrote criticizing the building replacing the World Trade Center. Banksy

Jerk or genius? Debate over Banksy's month of art

called the new design "vanilla ... something they would build in Canada," and added, "It so clearly proclaims the terrorists won." He offered the essay to The New York Times. The paper wouldn't print it, so he posted it on his website.

"The terrorists won" comment upset many New York-

ers, including Brian Major, 51, of Brooklyn. "Enough!" Major said. "Who is this guy? Everybody's got a right to an opinion but what gives him any kind of credibility in New York? Shut up, Banksy! Go home!"

A lifelong New Yorker, Major says he understands graffiti culture, and he also appreciates

fine art. But he doesn't think Banksy's art is all that good—"though I'll give him credit, he's a good marketer."

But Sean Lynch, 25, of Staten Island thinks Banksy is "one of the more captivating artists of our generation." Lynch said it was magical visiting Banksy sites around the city and hearing

conversations about art that the works inspired, with "people of all different walks and cultures sharing opinions, sharing stories. ... The walls started to talk to them, in a way."

Banksy, who refuses to reveal his full identity, began his career spray-painting buildings in Bristol, England. In New York,

many of his images were silhouetted figures or spray-painted messages. The art ranged from a stencil of a dog lifting his leg on a hydrant to a video of a "slaughterhouse delivery truck" filled with stuffed animals. Some works were defaced by other graffiti artists. But interest grew with each piece, and at least one Banksy street work was covered with Plexiglas to preserve it. He also sold some pieces, unadvertised, for \$60 on the street.

Radhika Subramaniam, a professor at Parsons The New School for Design in Manhattan, says Banksy is part of a long tradition of graffiti artists like Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat whose work ultimately earned recognition from the art establishment. But he also fits into a contemporary trend of opening up public spaces to conversations about who owns them and what can happen there—especially in today's cleaned-up New York, where Mayor Michael Bloomberg, when asked about Banksy, called graffiti "a sign of decay and loss of control."

OK, but is Banksy any good? "There's plenty of wit in what he does, as well as some thoroughly ordinary, sometimes pleasant, sometimes banal, but sometimes sweet things," Subramaniam said. But he's also "not a naïf in the art world. After all, who would care if you or I were to set up a blog and enact a residency like this? It's only because he's able to marshal this kind of PR and marketing that ... catapults his residency to another level and elicits these polarized points of view."



This undated file photo provided by Housing Works shows a painting, which includes an addition to the scene by the secretive British graffiti artist Banksy. The painting was auctioned off Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013, for \$615,000. The original painting first sold for \$50 at a Manhattan thrift shop that benefits Housing Works, an organization that fights homelessness and AIDS. Banksy added a Nazi soldier to the landscape scene and Housing Works sold it in an online auction.

'ZOMBIES' SWARM TOKYO TOWER IN HALLOWEEN STUNT

TOKYO (AP)—A zombie swarm in Tokyo? Why not, it's Halloween.

Led by a former sumo grand champion, about 1,000 beauty schools students and Halloween fun-seekers descended on Tokyo Tower—the Japanese capital's most iconic landmark—on Thursday in a “zombie attack” organized by Fox International Channels, Japan, to mark the beginning in the country of Season 4 of the popular TV show “The Walking Dead.”

Replete with black eyes, blood-soaked clothes and enough open wounds to fill several emergency rooms, the “zombies” covered the grounds of the tower in central Tokyo after making their way across town on buses and trains—much to the surprise of unsuspecting onlookers.

Halloween is popular in Japan, and Tokyo's subway stations are often crowded with partygoers in full costume on

Halloween night.

“Our only concern is that somebody might see all these zombies and have a heart attack,” said Dan Smith, a Fox producer who thought up the stunt.

Leading the zombie charge was Chad Rowan, who is famous in Japan under his sumo name, Akebono. Rowan, who is now a pro wrestler, is the first foreigner to reach sumo's highest rank and stands 203 centimeters tall (6-foot-8).

“It's great to be doing this in Tokyo,” said Rowan, who was dressed in black and had his face made up to look like he had two large gashes on his forehead. “It's so unusual to be able to do something like this here.”

Former sumo grand champion Akebono, far left, and other participants wearing zombie make-ups, perform during a Halloween event at Tokyo Tower in Tokyo, Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013.



JERUSALEM (AP)—Paula Abdul, an award-winning singer, dancer, choreographer and TV personality, can add a new title to her resume: religious pilgrim.

The former “American Idol” and “The X-Factor” judge is on her first trip to Israel, where she is connecting to her Jewish roots and planning on holding a belated Bat Mitzvah—the Jewish coming of age ceremony girls typically have at age 12 or 13.

“Beyond being Jewish, I've always found myself to be very much in tune with spirituality,”

Paula Abdul connects to Jewish roots in Israel

the 51-year-old Abdul told The Associated Press. “I feel very grateful coming to Israel now, where as a woman I know who I am a lot more than even 10 years ago.”

An official guest of Israel's ministry of tourism, Abdul has been touring the country and visiting holy sites, museums and markets in Jerusalem. Israeli President Shimon Peres also hosted the former Lakers Girl.

Abdul said the trip has

provided her a rare opportunity to experience the country like a “regular tourist” without the nonstop schedule of a concert tour.

“I've traveled the world touring and things like that but I don't get the chance to see much of wherever I'm at,” she said. Abdul described the visit as “the most magnifi-



Abdul

cent trip I've ever taken ... magical and emotional.”

After a music career that saw her have six No. 1 singles in the late '80s and early '90s, Abdul reinvented herself as quirky judge of talent on “American Idol.”

She left “Idol” in 2009 after eight seasons over a contract dispute. She later had one sea-

son as a judge on the U.S. version of “The X-Factor.” She'll appear next year as a judge on Australia's version of “So You Think You Can Dance.”

These days though, Abdul describes herself “a fan of talent.” She also said she tries to dance as much as she can.

“I dance because I have to, because I'm so passionate about it,” Abdul said.

However, she admits she's not a fan of twerking, the re-

cently much-talked-about dance involving thrusting hips and a low stance adopted by U.S. singer Miley Cyrus.

“Twerking has been around for many, many years,” Abdul said. She recalled that in early rap videos there were “girls bending down and twerking all over the place.”

“I think when girls dance, they should be girls,” Abdul said. “I don't find it the most attractive kind of dance. My Chihuahua can twerk and stick her tongue out at the same time too.”

'Ender's Game' blasts to top of weekend box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Weekend moviegoers chose sci-fi over slapstick.

“Ender's Game” scored the

No. 1 slot at the weekend box office, earning \$28 million in its opening weekend and sending “Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa” into second place, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Lionsgate's adaptation earned an additional \$2 million in five international territories.

Based on the novel by Orson Scott Card, “Ender's Game” stars Asa Butterfield and Harrison Ford as intergalactic soldiers.

Comments made by Card expressing opposition to gay marriage led some to call for a boycott of the film. But a strong first-place opening met the studio's pre-weekend expectations.

However, ticket sales didn't

come close to the opening weekends of other young-adult adaptations such as “Twilight” and “The Hunger Games.” It did fare better than “Beautiful Creatures” and “The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones.”

“Ender's Game” is a big budget movie that could be the start of a franchise,” said box-office analyst Paul Dergarabedian of Rentrak. “This time of year is not exactly a hotbed of million-dollar openings, but once they launch worldwide, it will do well.”

A representative for Lionsgate declined to be interviewed for this story.

Paramount's candid-camera comedy starring Johnny Knox-

ville disguised as an old man brought in an additional \$20.5 million in its second weekend, with a domestic total reaching more than \$62 million. It also picked up \$6 million in international ticket sales.

Other films opening this weekend didn't generate as much enthusiasm.

CBS Films' “Last Vegas,” featuring an all-star cast of silver screen veterans including Michael Douglas, Robert De Niro, Morgan Freeman and Kevin Kline, opened in third place, with \$16.5 million.

“It's interesting to see the number of stars that are not in their 20s in the top films,”

1. “Ender's Game,” \$28 million (\$2 million international).
2. “Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa,” \$20.5 million (\$6 million international).
3. “Last Vegas,” \$16.5 million.
4. “Free Birds,” \$16.2 million.
5. “Gravity,” \$13.1 million (\$27.1 million international).
6. “Captain Phillips,” \$8.5 million (\$10 million international).
7. “12 Years a Slave,” \$4.6 million.
8. “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2,” \$4.2 million (\$11.5 million international).
9. “Carrie,” \$3.4 million (\$1.6 million international).
10. “The Counselor,” \$2.3 million (\$2.6 million international).

Dergarabedian said. “Ender's Game” has Harrison Ford and Viola Davis, and “Last Vegas” is like a “Hangover” for the older crowd. Sandra Bullock and George Clooney (in “Gravity”) appeal to an older audience, and “12 Years a Slave,” which continues to impress as it expands into more and more theaters, is a very sophisticated drama.”

Relativity Media's 3-D ani-

mated kiddie flick “Free Birds,” with characters voiced by Owen Wilson, Woody Harrelson and Amy Poehler, debuted in the fourth spot, with \$16.2 million.

After its fifth weekend at the box office, the Warner Bros. 3-D stunner “Gravity” is still holding in the fifth position. It banked \$13.1 million over the weekend, bringing its domestic total to \$220 million. Internationally, it gained \$27.1 million.

Considered an Oscar contender, “12 Years a Slave” earned \$4.6 million at No. 7 in its third weekend.

Overseas, Disney's “Thor: The Dark World” earned an impressive \$109.4 million in its first international weekend. The Marvel superhero sequel opens domestically next weekend.

With the opening of “Thor: The Dark World,” Disney's cumulative international box office for 2013 has passed the studio's previous international record of \$2.303 billion, which was set in 2010.

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ENDER'S GAME [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Tue. - Wed.(425 PM) 725 PM

FREE BIRDS [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.700 PM

FREE BIRDS 3D [CC] (PG)
Tue. - Wed.(430 PM)

LAST VEGAS [CC] (PG-13)
Tue. - Wed.(445 PM) 730 PM

JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA [CC,DV] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(515 PM) 735 PM

THE COUNSELOR [CC,DV] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(420 PM) 705 PM

ESCAPE PLAN [CC,DV] (R)
Tue. - Wed.(415 PM) 710 PM

GRAVITY [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Tue. - Wed.(440 PM)

GRAVITY 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Tue. - Wed.715 PM

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This publicity photo released by Summit Entertainment shows Asa Butterfield in a scene from the film, “Ender's Game.”

AP

'Walking Dead' fans meet for convention in Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP)—Fans of the hit cable television show "The Walking Dead" congregated in downtown Atlanta this weekend for a convention focused on the AMC series.

The convention, named "Walker Stalker Con," was expected to draw about 10,000 people to the Atlanta Convention Center over the weekend.

Eric Nordhoff and James Frazier, also known as the "Walker Stalkers," created the convention after a road trip they made last fall from Nashville, Tenn., to Georgia to see the show being filmed.

Fans were treated to sessions with makeup artists to look like zombies during the convention, and the event featured appearances by some of the actors from the show.



Kim Kinney, of Atlanta, dressed as a zombie, walks through the floor of Walker Stalker Con, a convention based off the cable TV show "The Walking Dead," Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013, in Atlanta.

'Saturday Night Live' pokes fun at diversity issue

NEW YORK (AP)—With Kerry Washington as guest host, "Saturday Night Live" wasted no time poking fun at itself after receiving criticism for having no black women among its 16 regular cast members.

In the opening skit, the "Scandal" actress portrayed First Lady Michelle Obama, talking with her husband about an upcoming state dinner at the White House.

"Michelle, this is such a treat," said the president, impersonated by Jay Pharoah. "I feel like it's been years since I've seen you."

An aide came in, saying Oprah Winfrey had arrived for the dinner and wanted to see the president. "Don't you think you should get changed?" he asked Washington. She wondered whether cast member Kenan Thompson couldn't play Winfrey; both Thompson

and Pharoah have said recently they will no longer impersonate women on the NBC late-night comedy institution.

Washington left the stage and returned as Winfrey. She was then asked to portray Beyoncé—before show producer Steve Higgins interrupted with a voiceover.

Higgins said producers would like to apologize to Washington for the number of black women she would be asked to play in the show.

"We make this request both because Ms. Washington is an actress of considerable range and talent, and also because 'Saturday Night Live' does not currently have a black woman in the cast," he said. "We agree this is not an ideal situation and look forward to rectifying it in the future—un-

less, of course, we fall in love with another white guy first."

The show has had four black women among its regular cast since coming on the air in 1975 with the last one, biracial Maya Rudolph, leaving in 2007. Both Pharoah and Thompson have recently addressed the situation in interviews, with Pharoah even lobbying for a specific comic to be added—Darmirra Brunson of the OWN sitcom "Love Thy Neighbor."

To drive the point home in the skit, the presidential aide announced that six different Matthew McConaugheys were there to attend the state dinner—and six different white male cast members trooped in dressed as the actor.

Then the Rev. Al Sharpton appeared on the stage.

"What have we learned from this sketch?" Sharpton said. "As usual, nothing."

He then delivered the show's traditional opening line of "live from New York, it's Saturday night."

During the show, Washington portrayed a gum-chewing assistant to a career counselor, a political science professor discussing her unwavering support for Obama, Miss Uganda in a beauty pageant, a game show host, a teacher at the dunk tank in a school carnival and an 18-year-old contestant in an MTV dating game.

She also joked about "Scandal" co-star Tony Goldwyn, saying that she was "proud to be on a show that has the courage to cast a white man as president" in 2013.

Kids with high self-esteem are unlikely to be bullied

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I was picked on and bullied as a child. I was very insecure and dealt with low self-esteem. Through counseling I was able to overcome these issues to become a successful wife and mother. My question is, how do I prevent this from happening to my children without being an overprotective "bear" of a mom?

MAMA BEAR IN NEW YORK



Dear Abby

DEAR MAMA BEAR: Children with high self-esteem are less likely to be the targets of bullies. More often it's the child whose self-esteem is fragile to begin with who becomes the victim.

Children learn self-esteem from the way their parents treat them. Tell your children you love them, talk to them, read to them, listen to them and give them your undivided attention. And when they do something right, praise them.

If you teach your children respect for others and how to be independent, they will be less likely to be bullied. When they are old enough to have unsupervised access to their cellphones and online activities, you should also monitor them for any indication that they are being harassed or harassing another child.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I invited my sister "Alina" and her husband from out of town for Thanksgiving because they had no plans. I then extended an invitation to my other sister, "Marilyn," and her husband if they had no plans. Marilyn told me later that her daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren will be coming in from out of town, so I assumed they'd be celebrating Thanksgiving at her house.

When Marilyn asked me if they were included I said no, that the invitation was for her and her husband if they had no plans. Now she is furious with me and won't talk to me. I already have my children coming over and that will be 10 guests, which is as many as I can accommodate. Who is right here?

THANKSGIVING HOSTESS

DEAR HOSTESS: You are. Your sister should not have assumed that because you invited her and her husband for Thanksgiving that you were automatically obligated to entertain the rest of her family. It is your right to control your guest list, not hers.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I had a beautiful wedding and were blessed with the presence of many family members and friends. I am embarrassed to admit that we unfortunately did not send out thank-you cards to our guests.

Three years have passed, and we still feel guilty for not expressing our genuine gratitude. We are expecting our first child in a few months—another milestone we hope to share with our loved ones. Would it be OK to take this as an opportunity to finally thank them and share the news of our family?

MOM-TO-BE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR MOM-TO-BE: It would be in better taste to deliver these messages separately—first, your belated thank-you for your wedding gifts, and then, in a month or so when they have recovered from the shock, the news of your pregnancy and PERHAPS an invitation to your baby shower, which should be sent by whoever will be hosting it.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband gave me a lovely necklace for my birthday. The problem is it's made of stainless steel and I'm allergic to it. He did this before, and that time I asked him to return it. However, he never got around to it and eventually it went to charity.

What do I do this time? Tell him and risk hurting his feelings? Or shove it in a drawer forever?

THANKS, BUT ... IN AUSTRIA

DEAR THANKS, BUT ...: Say something like this to your husband: "Honey, the necklace is beautiful. You have wonderful taste. But remember? I'm allergic to stainless steel. Why don't we return it together and pick out something I'll be able to wear? Would Saturday be OK?"

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Author Cuoto from Mozambique wins \$50,000 prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Fiction writer and poet Mia Cuoto of Mozambique has won a \$50,000 prize for lifetime achievement.

The 58-year-old Cuoto is this year's winner of the Neustadt International Prize for Literature. The honor was announced Friday by the University of Oklahoma and World Literature Today, a magazine based at the school in Norman, Okla.

Established in 1969, the award is given every two years. Previous winners include Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Octavio Paz and Elizabeth Bishop.

Cuoto's books include the novels "Sleepwalking Land" and "The Last Flight of the Flamingo" and a short story collection, "Voices Made Night." He is the first author from Mozambique to win the Neustadt.

Kardashian and West sue over leaked proposal vid

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kim Kardashian and Kanye West are suing a co-founder of YouTube over a video of their marriage proposal that was posted online.

The lawsuit filed Thursday claims Chad Hurley violated a confidentiality agreement when he posted the fuzzy footage of the lavish proposal on his new web venture, MixBit.

The 2 1/2 minute video captured West's Oct. 21 proposal to Kardashian at San Francisco's AT&T Park and the ensuing celebration.

The lawsuit states West contracted with a producer to film the event for possible broadcast on E! Entertainment Television, home to his fiancée's hit show "Keeping Up With the Kardashians."

Kardashian and West are



In this Oct. 22, 2012 file photo, singer Kanye West, left, and girlfriend Kim Kardashian attend Gabrielle's Angel Foundation 2012 Angel Ball cancer research benefit at Cipriani Wall Street in New York.

seeking unspecified damages from Hurley and his company, Avos Systems Inc.

A message sent through MixBit seeking comment from Hurley was not immediately returned.

Police: Intruder enters Stephen King's Maine home

BANGOR, Maine (AP)—Authorities say a man who entered the home of horror writer Stephen King is facing charges.

Police say 29-year-old Christopher Prince went inside

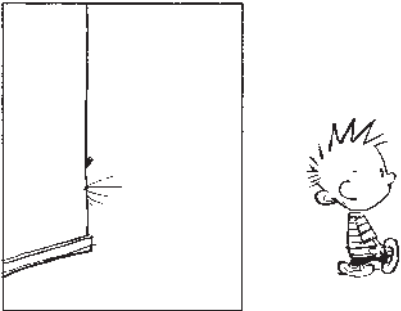
King's Maine home on Tuesday but was ordered to leave by staff members.

Police said Friday that the trouble grew when Prince became combative with officers who tried

to question him. Authorities ended up arresting him on charges of failure to submit to arrest. He was also issued a criminal trespass warning. A phone listing for Prince couldn't be found.

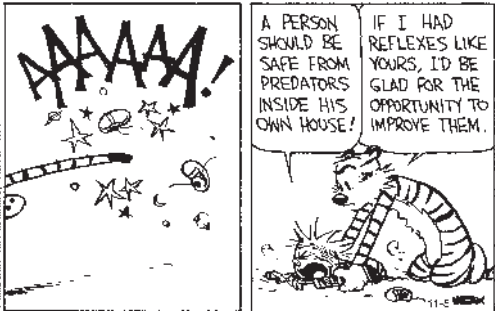
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

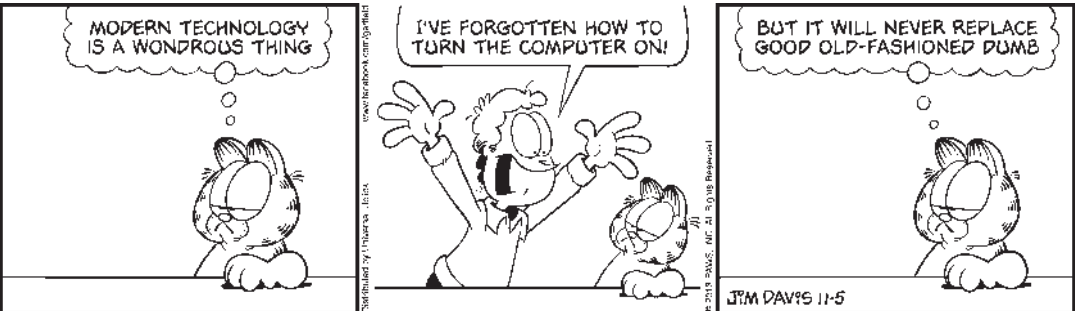


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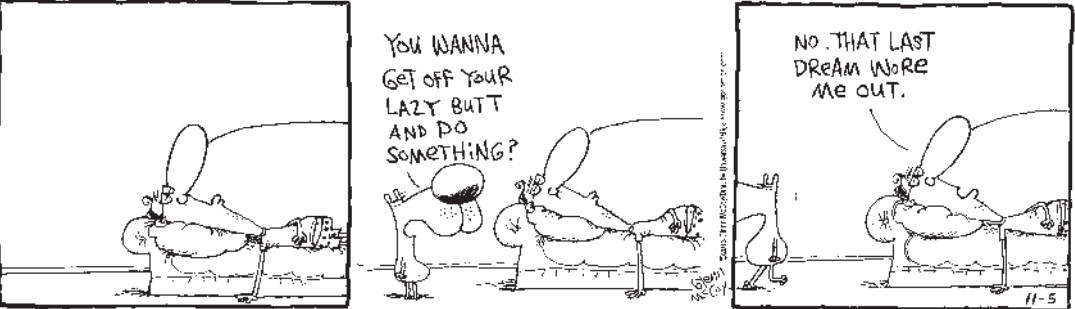
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Double agent 5 Core of a PC 8 Million-byte units 12 Line of rotation 13 Trench 14 Pronto, on a 15 Woody barbecue fuel 17 Tear down 18 Pismire 19 Butterfly catcher 20 Team 21 Central 22 "Skip to My —" 23 Jeweler's measure 26 Berry used to make gin 30 Culture medium 31 Candy in a dispenser 32 Unaccompanied 33 Big feast 35 Yo-Yo Ma's instrument

DOWN 1 One of the 37 That guy's 38 Host 41 Enthusiast 42 "Acid" 45 Vegan's no-no 46 Summer-time pest 48 Fails to be 49 Umpire's call 50 Accomplishment 51 Quaker address 52 Raw mineral 53 Partially mine

11 Raced 16 One 20 Junior 21 Lewis : Clark :: — : Joliet 22 Light (Sp.) 23 Taxi 24 Khan title 25 Sprinted 26 Lustrous black 27 Dem. or Rep. 28 Right angle 29 Kanga's kid 31 Shell game item 34 Work with 35 Five (Fr.) 37 Waste maker 38 Send forth 39 Netting 40 Walking stick 41 Quartet 42 Stead 43 Celebrity 44 Morse morsels 46 Cattle call 47 Venusian vessel?

Solution time: 21 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 11-05

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Kevin Jonas, 26; Tatum O'Neal, 50; Bryan Adams, 54; Art Garfunkel, 72.

Happy Birthday: See, believe and finish what you start. You'll have control and can master whatever you set your mind to. Engage in the unique and aim to grab attention with your persistent and precise way of dealing with anything or anyone that confronts you. Don't let the past stand in your way. Take a different approach and try again. Your numbers are 5, 13, 20, 24, 31, 36, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Gravitate toward what's realistic. Let your faith lead you in the right direction. Your knowledge and expertise will not disappoint you. Talk with someone you feel has something to add to your life. Stand by your ethics and you will have no regrets. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): An old friend or colleague will help you make a decision based on your past performance. Changing where you live or searching for information or solutions outside your local parameters will lead to answers. Honor whatever rules are set. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take a moment to go over all the facts and decipher what's transpired. There is no point getting angry or frustrated over an emotional situation that you cannot alter. Someone is withholding information or not telling the truth. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Speak up and join in. Don't be afraid to be different. Your unique way of dealing with others will garner the response and help you

need in return. Let your emotions lead the way. Keep your energy focused on improving your environment. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be looking for a good time but not everyone will be in the mood to join you. Problems at home, due to personal responsibilities or promises you made at work, must be taken care of before you can take off with friends. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll capture attention with your selective way of dealing with people and projects. Trouble at home must not be allowed to slow down your progress or hinder your work ethics. Make whatever personal change is necessary to avoid emotional manipulation. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't miss out on a professional opportunity because you are too busy making personal plans. Take care of business and put the effort in to gain the confidence of those willing to pay for your skills and service. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Take a close look at your to-do list and get the ball rolling. A little action will help you regain someone's interest. Romance coupled with a promise to make special plans with someone will enhance your personal life. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Address financial matters realistically if you want to make progress. Don't let your emotions lead you down a path that stands between you and a resolution that can result in benefits. Cut your losses and be thankful for what you receive. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You don't have to make an impulsive move. Watch what everyone else does and you will realize you are in a good position that only requires you to carry on and do your thing. Financial gains are heading your way. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Listen carefully and prepare to make changes that are based on your needs, not on what someone else expects from you. You will learn through past mistakes and by dealing with humanitarian concerns. Let your emotions guide you. Act on impulse. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Tie up loose ends. Put agreements and contracts to rest. Show your interest and negotiate your position. You have everything to gain by speaking up and taking charge. This is not the time to let emotions or insecurity take over. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are persistent, curious and intuitive. You are serious-minded and intense.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](#)/[facebook](#)/[linkedin](#).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			5	1	4						
2		9			8						
	4			3	9						
9		8	7	5		6					
5			4	8	3	9					
	3		9		7						
		4			1	5					
1		8		4							

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	4	9	7	5	1	2	6	3
7	3	6	9	2	8	4	5	1
5	2	1	4	6	3	8	7	9
3	7	5	2	1	9	6	8	4
1	6	4	8	3	5	9	2	7
9	8	2	6	7	4	1	3	5
4	9	7	3	8	6	5	1	2
2	1	8	5	9	7	3	4	6
6	5	3	1	4	2	7	9	8

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TOP YOUTUBE CHANNELS Solution: 5 letters

S R E H T O R B E N I F E H T
E C U A S V B I E B E R J N E
M S A N T H O N Y O V E V A P
L T W L T F A R C E N I M I I
I E O I M A C H I N I M A S C
F E H B F A I L A L O H P P M
A T S M Y T I M E V S R E O E
L H N T A G A L I A A W R T A
S T E A M R A E L E D M R L L
E N L Y B O S M G I O S Y I T
H I L L I O N P E S W I N G I
O T E O N S O P P S Y I H M
O S E R A T I D O L S L A T E
D U H F R E D D I E W Y R R M
S J T S Y R I H A N N A B H E

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Yesterday's Answer: Ants
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Interested applicants please send resume to P.O. Box 503616, Saipan, MP 96950.

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Maintenance Worker (1)
Qualifications:
■ At least High School graduate or equivalent with 3 years experience required.
■ Must know how to do plumbing, mechanical, electrical, carpentry, masonry work.
■ Must know how to operate different kinds of machines and equipments.
■ Must be able to work as full time with flexible working hours and during nights or weekends.

Applicants may submit resume to Joe’s Bar and Steak House Capital’s office in Garapan. Phone 233-5368.

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Sales Operation Manager
10 years continued experience with Bachelor’s Degree in Sales & marketing. Must have extensive knowledge on consumer products, sales & promotional planning, inventory & budget control and product importation. Must have the ability to handle overall operations of wholesale business. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Must be available to work anytime needed.
Sales Officer
High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 10 years continued selling experience. Must have own reliable transportation. Ability to meet monthly sales target and must have extensive contacts in various industries. Must have extensive knowledge in Japanese and Korean products. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Must be available to work on weekends and holidays.
Purchasing Agent
High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 5 years of experience. Extensive knowledge in wholesale operation, ordering, planning, shipment. Extensive knowledge in Japanese and Korean products, preferred. Proficiency in Korean/Japanese speaking is advantage. Knowledgeable in Microsoft word programs & wholesale software system.
Building Repair & Maintenance/ Warehouse worker
High school graduate or equivalent with at least 5-7 years experience. Must have extensive knowledge and experience in electrical, refrigeration, carpentry work. Familiar with picking, stacking and releasing of merchandize. Must be able to do some strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of items. Must know how to operate pallet jack and forklift equipments. Must be available to work on weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants submit resume and latest police clearance at Alpex Saipan Inc. office, across San Antonio Church, San Antonio Village. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Nov 11, 2013.

H.S. Lee Construction Co. Inc.
Maintenance Supervisor
10 years continued experience. Extensive knowledge in building inspection, repair safety measures and waste management. Ability to handle tenants maintenance request (electrical, plumbing, mechanical, carpentry). Knowledgeable in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws. Knowledgeable in electrical system installation in accordance with NEC and local government standards.
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5-7 years continued experience. Perform maintenance and repair jobs on buildings, knowledge in carpentry, plumbing, masonry and yard work.
Houseworker
5 years experience. Honest, trustworthy, hardworking and follow instructions well. Can perform housework and cook Korean meals. Preferably Korean speaking.

Interested applicants submit resume and latest police clearance at HS Lee Construction Office, 2nd floor of Highway Express Building middle Road. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Nov 11, 2013.

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D & W ENTERPRISES, INC. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:
1 – DIESEL TANK TRUCK DRIVER
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
■ Knowledge to operate a Commercial Motor Vehicle that transporting hazardous material (petroleum diesel).
■ Knowledge to load/unload petroleum diesel at filling rack
■ Knowledge to read tank truck gauges or meters
■ Must know to transport hazardous materials (petroleum diesel) and must know how to respond in case of spillage and emergency.
■ Safety training is required to Hazardous material transportation
■ Familiarization in hazard class 1075 & 49 CFR (Hazard Masterials/Dangerous Goods)
■ Must be a certified Hazmat Tank truck driver
■ Must have not less than 5 years experience as a Hazmat Tank Truck Driver
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■ Must possess a current and valid CNMI driver’s license and not be disqualified to drive a motor vehicle.
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Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
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■ Knowledge in Peachtree software, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Word operations

Mail resume to P.O. Box 500440, Saipan, MP 96950. Tel: 322-7415/8733. Deadline: November 12, 2013.

WUSHIN CORPORATION is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:
1 – LPG EQUIPMENT/TANKER MECHANIC
Salary: Minimum/Negotiable, Full time
■ Must have 5 years experience in Maintenance skills in the relevant field
■ Repairing and maintenance of LPG equipment, LPG Tanker Truck pumps and metering system.
■ Knowledge in established LPG Plant procedures and standards
■ Skilled in following safety practices and security procedures
■ Safety training is required to Hazardous material transportation
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■ Training certificate is required in Hazardous Material Transportation
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■ Commercial Drivers Health Certificate is required
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Foles throws 7 TDs, Eagles beat Raiders, 49-20



OAKLAND, California (AP)—Nick Foles equaled an NFL mark with seven touchdown passes and threw for 406 yards to revitalize Philadelphia in a 49-20 victory over the Oakland Raiders on Sunday.

The backup quarterback connected three times with Riley Cooper to become the seventh passer in NFL history with seven TD tosses in a game. Peyton Manning did it for Denver on opening night this season against Baltimore.

Foles also threw scoring passes to Brent Celek, Zach Ertz, LeSean McCoy and DeSean Jackson as the Eagles (4-5) looked nothing like the offense that failed to score a touchdown in each of the past two weeks.

Foles completed 22 of 28 passes as he frequently exploited mismatches and blown coverages, starting with a 42-yard screen pass to Cooper on the opening drive when the Raiders (3-5) had two defenders trying to match up with three receivers.

Foles tied the record with a 5-yard pass to Cooper with 4:28 remaining in the third quarter, matching the mark also held by Sid Luckman, Adrian Burk, George Blanda, Y.A. Tittle and Joe Kapp.

Seahawks 27, Buccaneers 24, OT

In Seattle, Steven Hauschka kicked a 27-yard field goal with 8:11 left in overtime, helping the Seahawks overcome a 21-point deficit to beat the Buccaneers for their greatest comeback in franchise history.

Trailing 21-0, Russell Wilson rallied Seattle (8-1). He threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Doug Baldwin with 1:51 left in regulation to pull the Seahawks even. Wilson then led Seattle on a nine-play, 51-yard drive in overtime capped by Hauschka's winner.

Tampa Bay fell to 0-8 for the first time since 1985 when the Buccaneers started the season 0-9. Mike James rush for a career-best 158 yards for the Buccaneers.

Chiefs 23, Bills 13

In Orchard Park, New York, Sean Smith returned an interception 100 yards for a touchdown and Tamba Hali scored on an 11-yard fumble return in the Chiefs' win over Buffalo.

The defense made up for a sputtering offense that managed just 210 yards, and for its own deficiencies.

The Chiefs gave up a season-worst 470 yards to a Bills (3-6) offense that was led by undrafted rookie Jeff Tuel, making his first career start. Tuel finished 18 of 39 for 229 yards passing, including a 59-yard touchdown to Marquise Goodwin. Tuel, however, threw two interceptions that led to 10 points for the Chiefs.

Kansas City (9-0) remained the NFL's only undefeated team and matched the best start in



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Nick Foles (9) passes against the Oakland Raiders during the first half of an NFL football game in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013.

Texans coach Kubiak collapses, taken to hospital

HOUSTON (AP)—Houston coach Gary Kubiak collapsed leaving the field at halftime of the Texans' game Sunday night against Indianapolis and was taken by ambulance to a hospital.

Kubiak hunched over and dropped to his knees at the 24 yard line and was immediately surrounded by medical personnel. He was lifted off the field on a stretcher and taken by cart to the ambulance.

The Texans didn't say what was wrong with Kubiak, but did say he didn't have a heart attack. The team said the 52-year-old coach, a former NFL quarterback who calls the team's plays, was conscious and was with his family as he was taken to the hospital.

Defensive coordinator Wade Phillips took over as coach. Up 21-3 when Kubiak collapsed, the Texans unraveled in the second half, falling 27-24 for

their sixth straight loss after opening the season 2-0 with Super Bowl hopes.

Kubiak's collapse came a day after Denver Broncos coach John Fox was hospitalized in North Carolina as he awaits aortic valve replacement surgery. The 58-year-old Fox will have surgery in a few days and will miss several weeks while recuperating.

Fox had been told earlier about his heart condition and

was hoping to put off the operation until February. As part of his trip to North Carolina on a bye week, he met with his cardiologist in Raleigh and was told to seek medical attention immediately if he felt any discomfort.

On Saturday, Fox became dizzy playing golf near his off-season home in Charlotte and was taken to a hospital, where tests revealed he couldn't wait any longer to have the surgery.

franchise history set in 2003.

The Chiefs held an opponent to 17 points or fewer for the ninth straight time — matching the NFL record set by the Atlanta Falcons in 1977.

Jets 26, Saints 20

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Nick Folk kicked four field goals, Rex Ryan's defense held Drew Brees and the high-scoring Saints to six points in the second half, and New York had seven plays of at least 19 yards in an upset of New Orleans.

Ryan is now 7-3 against his brother, Rob, and the Jets (5-4) maintained their string of alternating wins and losses. They tied the 2005 New England Patriots for the longest such string to begin a season, according to STATS.

Folk is 23 for 23 on field goals and 14 of 14 on extra points.

Interceptions by Demario Davis and Antonio Cromartie highlighted New York's solid defensive performance, and former Saints running back Chris Ivory rushed for 139 yards and a touchdown.

New Orleans (6-2) got two touchdown catches from Jimmy Graham, giving him 10 this season.

Browns 24, Ravens 18

In Cleveland, Jason Campbell threw three touchdown passes—two to Davone Bess—and the Browns ended an 11-game losing streak against Baltimore.

Campbell's 3-yard pass to Bess on fourth down with three minutes left helped the Browns (4-5) seal their first win over Baltimore since 2007.

The Ravens (3-5) lost their third straight and didn't win in the week following a bye for the first time in six tries under coach John Harbaugh.

Baltimore's Joe Flacco had a pair of TD passes to rookie Marlon Brown. Flacco finished 24 of 41 for 250 yards.

Making his second straight start after Brandon Weeden was benched, Campbell completed 23 of 35 passes for 262 yards. The nine-year veteran was at his best in the closing minutes, when the Browns ran 6:30 off the clock to finish off the Ra-

vens, who have lost four of five.

Patriots 55, Steelers 31

In Foxborough, Massachusetts, Tom Brady threw for season highs of 432 yards and four touchdowns, Rob Gronkowski had a career-high nine receptions and the Patriots racked up the most points ever scored against Pittsburgh.

Brady had 252 yards passing in the first half, more than he had in five of his other eight games for New England (7-2).

New England piled up 610 yards overall, third most in team history.

Three Patriots had more than 100 yards receiving, Gronkowski with 143, Aaron Dobson with 130 and Danny Amendola with 122.

Pittsburgh (2-6) wasted a solid performance by Ben Roethlisberger, who threw for 400 yards and four touchdowns with two interceptions.

Cowboys 27, Vikings 23

In Arlington, Texas, Tony Romo threw for 337 yards and two touchdowns, including the go-

ahead score to Dwayne Harris with 35 seconds left, and the Cowboys beat the Vikings.

Romo's 7-yard pass to Harris answered an 11-yard touchdown by Adrian Peterson that had given Minnesota a 23-20 lead. The East Texas kid raised on the Cowboys (5-4) had 140 yards rushing in his first game at their \$1.2 billion stadium.

Christian Ponder threw for a touchdown and ran for another score against his hometown team, but it wasn't enough to avoid a fourth straight loss for the Vikings (1-7).

Jason Witten had eight catches for 102 yards and a TD for Dallas.

Panthers 34, Falcons 10

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Cam Newton threw for one touchdown and ran for another to overcome a shaky start, the defense intercepted Matt Ryan three times and Carolina beat the Falcons for its fourth straight victory.

Newton had two first half interceptions and wasn't sharp on his deep balls, regularly

overthrowing his receivers. Yet he bounced back to throw for 249 yards, including a 14-yard touchdown pass to tight end Greg Olsen. He also ran for an 8-yard touchdown for the Panthers (5-3).

Fullback Mike Tolbert scored his fifth touchdown in the last four games on a 4-yard burst and cornerback Drayton Florence intercepted Ryan and returned it 38 yards for a score to seal the win.

Ryan was 20 of 27 for 219 yards.

The Falcons (2-6) continued to struggle without Julio Jones and Roddy White. Tony Gonzalez had six catches for 81 yards and a touchdown but the Falcons were held to 78 yards rushing.

Redskins 30, Chargers 24, OT

In Landover, Maryland, Darrel Young scored three times, including a 4-yard run in overtime that gave the Redskins a win over the Chargers.

Young stormed his way into the end zone 6:01 into the extra period, with the Redskins scoring on their first drive after winning the coin toss at the end of regulation.

Washington blew a 10-point lead in the final minutes of the fourth quarter, but a goal-line stand at the 1-yard line helped send the game to overtime.

Robert Griffin III completed 23 of 32 passes for 291 yards with one interception and ran six times for 17 yards, including a 10-yard ramble that ended when he was flung to the turf by Thomas Keiser near the sideline.

Alfred Morris rushed 25 times for 121 yards and a score, Pierre Garcon had seven receptions for 172 yards, and the defense intercepted Philip Rivers twice as the Redskins (3-5), despite their record, remained competitive in the weak NFC East.

Rivers was 29 for 46 for 341 yards with two touchdowns for the Chargers (4-4).

Titans 28, Rams 21

In St. Louis, Chris Johnson ran for 150 yards and two touchdowns and the Titans got the best of Jeff Fisher, who coached them for 16 seasons, and the Rams.

Johnson's 19-yard scoring run snapped a tie with 2:54 to go and came a snap after Jurrell Casey sacked and stripped quarterback Kellen Clemens, and Derrick Morgan recovered.

The Rams (3-6) got a second straight 100-yard game from rookie Zac Stacy, who had 127 yards on 27 carries and two touchdowns.

The Titans (4-4) snapped a three-game losing streak and won after their bye against a team on short rest.

The 100-yard game was Johnson's first since Week 7 last season against Buffalo. In the previous four games, he'd totaled 110 yards with a 2.4-yard average per carry.

James, Bosh lift Heat past Wizards, 103-93



MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James scored 25 points and Chris Bosh added 24 as Miami beat winless Washington 103-93 on Sunday night to end a rare two-game slide.

Dwyane Wade scored 20 points for Miami, which hasn't dropped three straight regular-season games since Jan. 10-13, 2012. The Heat (2-2) had 32 assists on 37 field goals, including on all nine of their baskets in the third quarter.

Including playoffs, the Heat are now 100 games over .500 at home since the start of the 2010-11 season—127-27.

Bradley Beal scored 19 points for the Wizards. Marcin Gortat finished with 15 points and 11 rebounds for Washington (0-3).

Miami's last three-game slide was against Boston in the 2012 Eastern Conference finals, a series the Heat won in seven games.

Pistons 87, Celtics 77

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Josh Smith and Andre Drummond scored 15 points each as Detroit kept Boston and first-year coach Brad Stevens winless.

The Pistons (2-1) trailed 65-63 early in the fourth quarter but went on a 10-0 run to take the lead for good and win their second home game in as many tries. Drummond added 12 rebounds and Brandon Jennings had 14 points in his Detroit debut.

Rookie Kelly Olynyk scored 15 points and Jordan Crawford added 13 for the Celtics (0-3).

Jennings missed most of the preseason and the first two games because of a fractured jaw caused by a wisdom tooth. Jennings came to Detroit dur-

ing the offseason in a sign-and-trade deal with Milwaukee.

Magic 107, Nets 86

In Orlando, Florida, Nikola Vucevic had 19 points and 12 rebounds as Orlando routed Brooklyn in Jason Kidd's coaching debut.

Magic rookie Victor Oladipo scored 19 points, 14 in the second half, as Orlando won back-to-back games for the first time since Dec. 19, 2012. Andrew Nicholson added 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Magic (2-2), who beat New Orleans 110-90 at home last Friday night.

Brook Lopez led the Nets with 21 points. Paul Pierce was the only other Net to score in double figures with 16 points and he grabbed seven rebounds. The Nets (1-2), who shot 38.2 percent for the game, and were outscored 66-48 in the second half.

Thunder 103, Suns 96

In Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant had 33 points and 10 rebounds and Russell Westbrook had 21 points and seven assists in his return from a knee injury for Oklahoma City.

Serge Ibaka added nine points and 10 rebounds for Oklahoma City (2-1), which won its fifth straight home opener and defeated Phoenix (2-1) for the 11th straight time. The Suns last beat Oklahoma City in December 2010.

Westbrook, sidelined for six months after first tearing the lateral meniscus in his right knee during the second game of the NBA playoffs, then having a medical setback, returned three to five weeks ahead of the team's previously announced timetable.

Eric Bledsoe scored 26



Los Angeles Lakers guard Xavier Henry, upper left, puts up a shot as Atlanta Hawks forward Paul Millsap, left, and Atlanta Hawks center Al Horford, of the Dominican Republic, defend during the second half of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013, in Los Angeles.

points and added a career-best 14 assists for Phoenix, which opened the season with home wins over Portland and Utah. The Suns stayed with Oklahoma City thanks to 14-of-37 3-point shooting, compared to

2 of 18 for the Thunder.

Timberwolves 109, Knicks 100

In New York, Kevin Love had 34 points, 15 rebounds and five assists and Kevin Martin scored 30

points as Minnesota improved to 3-0 for the first time in 12 years.

Minnesota took a huge lead after a 40-point first quarter, then pulled away after the Knicks trimmed it to two in the closing minutes to move half-

way to matching the 2001-02 team that set the franchise record by winning its first six.

The Timberwolves, averaging a whopping 37.3 points in the first quarter, are healthy again after an injury-wrecked 2012-13 and showing the early promise of a team that can contend for its first playoff berth since 2004.

Carmelo Anthony had 22 points and 17 rebounds for the Knicks, who have dropped two straight after a season-opening victory and drew some loud boos in the first half while appearing to be standing still on defense.

Anthony shot just 8 of 21. Metta World Peace added 17 points, but the Knicks were too far behind by the time they found any offense.

Lakers 105, Hawks 103

In Los Angeles, Xavier Henry scored 18 points and Pau Gasol hit two tiebreaking free throws with 6 seconds remaining for Los Angeles, which lost all of a 21-point lead.

Henry started at forward for the first time as a Laker and the 19th time in 137 NBA games. He was 5 of 11 from the field. Gasol finished with 16 points and 13 rebounds, while Steve Nash had 13 points and six assists and Nick Young added 13 points.

Kyle Korver led Atlanta with 22 points, converting all six 3-point attempts, but he missed a 21-footer from the right baseline as time ran out. Hawks point guard Jeff Teague had 14 points and six assists after missing his first five shots.

Two nights after shooting only 37 percent from the field and blowing a 15-point lead against San Antonio, Los Angeles shot 42.7 percent.

Big game, big win for Dustin Johnson in Shanghai



SHANGHAI (AP)—It only took four holes over two days for Dustin Johnson to lose a six-shot lead in the HSBC Champions. All that mattered was the high-powered kick down the stretch Sunday at Sheshan International that brought him the biggest win of his career.

In what felt like the end of a long year and beginning of a new season, Johnson broke loose from a three-way challenge on the back nine by playing a five-hole stretch in 5-under par. He closed with a 6-under 66 for a three-shot win over Ian Poulter to capture his first World Golf Championship title.

"It's the biggest win I've had in my career so far," he said. "Those guys put a lot of pressure on me. I'm really proud of the way I handled myself."

This one required a little bit of everything.

One shot behind with six

holes to play, he smashed his drive over the corner of a dog-leg on the 13th hole that left him a short wedge into 5 feet for birdie to catch Poulter. Right when it looked as though he would fall behind again, Johnson holed a 20-foot birdie putt on the next hole.

It was a pitch-in for eagle that effectively won the tournament.

With a one-shot lead playing the par-4 16th, Johnson hit a 3-iron about 25 yards short of the green with a front pin. The pitch was perfect, rolling into the cup like it was a putt. Johnson raised his left hand and pumped his right fist. And when he waved to acknowledge the Chinese fans, they instinctively waved back, as if Johnson were the star attraction in a parade.

That he was, and there were plenty of stars.

For most of the back nine, the top seven players on the leaderboards consisted of John-

son and half of Europe's winning Ryder Cup team from Medinah.

Poulter and Graeme McDowell, who each had a share of the lead at some point, looked capable of winning until Johnson's late heroics. Right behind them were Sergio Garcia, Justin Rose, Rory McIlroy and Martin Kaymer, all firing away with birdies on a soft course but unable to catch up.

Poulter and McDowell each closed with a 66, the same score as Johnson.

McDowell went 64-66 on the weekend without making a bogey and still lost by four. It was the start of that amazing stretch by Johnson that he recalled most clearly.

"He trenches one 350 down the middle and has the hands to that 70-yard shot to the front pin and make the putt," McDowell said. "He's just a quality, talented, very athletic, classy player. Yeah, he makes mistakes. But when you've got a game as

good as him, you can get away with a few mistakes. He's just got a great wedge game to go with just an outrageously good driving game."

Johnson set the tournament record at 24-under 264.

He was six shots clear Saturday afternoon when he hit his tee shot in the water for a double bogey on the par-5 18th hole. Poulter had made birdie on the 18th, so the lead was cut to three shots going into the final round. Poulter started birdie-birdie. McDowell did one better, opening with three straight birdies. Johnson three-putted the first hole for bogey, and then failed to make birdie on the par-5 second hole even though he had a 6-iron for his second shot.

Just like that, there was a three-way tie for the lead.

"The first five holes were not fun," Johnson said. "I wasn't having too much fun at the start, especially when Graeme and Ian were birdieing every

hole, it seemed like. But I knew I just needed to keep playing my game."

Poulter, still tied for the lead, reached the green in two with a fairway metal. Johnson missed the fairway and had to lay up, while McDowell was stuck in the thick collar on the top side of a bunker, and he did well to hit a chunk-and-run onto the green about 40 feet away. Poulter lagged to tap-in range for birdie. McDowell's long birdie putt banged into the back of the cup and disappeared. Johnson calmly made his 20-foot birdie.

"That was a big putt there," Johnson said.

Poulter fell out of the lead with a bogey from the bunker on the 15th, and he never caught up. He at least stayed within two shots with a birdie on the 16th, but it was demoralizing to see Johnson follow his eagle with a 5-iron into 8 feet for birdie on the 17th that wrapped it up.

"A little disappointed not to put my hands back on the trophy," said Poulter, who won the HSBC Champions last year at

Mission Hills. "But 15 birdies and an eagle at the weekend is some pretty good golf. Dustin finished the job. It was good golf and it was good fun to play in that group."

Garcia closed with a 63 to finish fourth, followed by Rose (68). McIlroy and Graham DeLaet each shot 69 to tie for sixth.

It was the second straight PGA Tour season that Johnson won the first tournament he played—even though it was in the same year. His last win was the Tournament of Champions at Kapalua in January. This is the first time the tour has gone to a wraparound season, which began a month ago.

Johnson now has won in each of his first seven seasons on the PGA Tour, the most by any player since Woods in his first 14 seasons through 2009. The next step is to win a major, and he already has had plenty of chances in those.

"You know what?" Johnson said. "If I play like I did this week, I'm going to win one, for sure."

Mutai, Jeptoo of Kenya win titles at NYC Marathon

NEW YORK (AP)—Geoffrey Mutai looks unbeatable again.

The New York City Marathon returned Sunday after a one-year absence, and the Kenyan star won it for the second straight time. Countrywoman Priscah Jeptoo rallied from behind in the women’s race for a Kenyan sweep.

Runners and fans came back, undaunted by tight security, after the 2012 cancellation and April’s Boston Marathon bombings.

The last time the NYC Marathon was held, Mutai broke the course record in 2011. Last year’s race never happened because of Superstorm Sandy. And after the attacks in Boston, barricades blocked off much of the park Sunday, and fans waited in bag-check lines to get in.

Still, there were plenty of spectators to urge on Jeptoo to chase down Buzunesh Deba, a Bronx resident who finished runner-up for the second straight time in her hometown race.

Nobody was catching Mutai, who pulled away around Mile 22 and beat Ethiopia’s Tsegaye Kebede by 52 seconds. On a windy morning, Mutai’s time of 2 hours, 8 minutes, 24 seconds was well off his course record of 2:05:06 set in nearly perfect conditions two years ago. He’s the first man to repeat in New York since



Geoffrey Mutai of Kenya celebrates his first place win in the men’s division of the New York City Marathon, Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013, in New York.

Kenya’s John Kagwe in 1997-98.

“To win this course twice, it’s not easy,” Mutai said. “For me, it’s a glory.”

Jeptoo trailed Deba by nearly 3 1/2 minutes at the halfway point. She made her move as the race entered Manhattan after a race official on a bike told her how big the gap was.

“I train well, and I was in good shape,” she said. “So I tried to push myself to see that I am supposed to close the gap before they reach 40 kilometers (25 miles). When they reach 40

kilometers, it could be difficult for me to close the gap.”

Deba was slowed by stomach cramps, and Jeptoo passed the Ethiopian with just more than 2 miles left. The 2012 Olympic silver medalist and 2013 London Marathon champ, Jeptoo won in 2:25:07 to clinch the \$500,000 World Marathon Majors bonus.

Last year’s events in New York incensed many residents and runners, but there was little sign of those sour feelings Sunday. City and marathon officials initially vowed that the race

would go on, and New Yorkers balked at the idea of possibly diverting resources amid such devastation. But by the time the decision to cancel was made, many out-of-town entrants had already arrived in the city.

Plenty came back a year later. A record 50,740 runners started.

The women’s race played out almost identically to the last NYC Marathon two years ago. But this time, Deba was the pursued, not the pursuer.

In 2011, Mary Keitany took a big early lead, and Deba and countrywomen Firehiwot Dado chased her down. Dado, who won that day, was 14th Sunday as the defending champ.

This time, Deba and training partner Tigist Tufa separated themselves right from the start. Deba wound up finishing 48 seconds behind Jeptoo, while Tufa fell back to eighth.

“That’s my plan,” Deba said. “I need to run my best time. My training is very good. I prepared very good.”

Jelena Prokopcuka of Latvia, who won the race in 2005 and ‘06, placed third at age 37, returning to the podium after the birth of her son.

Kebede, the London Marathon champ, clinched the \$500,000 bonus for the World Marathon Majors men’s title. South Africa’s Lusapho April was third.

HOOPS

From Page 28

a roller-coaster ride this season. It was three against one in the Hoops-Mobil tussle, as the former had Kelvin Fitial, Maverick Itibus, and Zack Babauta to battle the latter’s Freddie Pelisamen. Fitial and Itibus scored 21 points each for the Hoops, while Babauta had 17 to offset the 33 points of Pelisamen.

The Mobil gunner was a one-man show, as he was the lone player on his team to break into twin digits. Gyles Ruluked and Butch Kaipat were the second-leading scorers for Mobil, making 9 each. Jun Estolas had a quiet 7 points and nailed only one field goal.

The Hoops was in control in the ma-

jority of the match, but could not pull away, as Pelisamen kept Mobil afloat with his streak shooting. He and Itibus traded baskets early in the fourth quarter that began with the Hoops ahead by only 7, 65-58. Itibus then went cold past the halfway mark of the fourth, but Fitial, Babauta, and even Jerry Diaz showed up in that canto to counter Pelisamen’s hot shooting. Diaz scored 5 of his 7 points in the fourth.

KB Market 103, Kanoa Resort 91

In the second game, KB Market dominated Kanoa Resort from start to finish to notch only its second win in five games.

An early double-digit lead, 29-17, set up the easy victory for KB Market, which kept its safe distance at the end of each

period. Four KB Market players scored at least two field goals apiece in the opening canto take the 12-point advantage. KB Market continued to spread the wealth in the last three quarters, while Kanoa Resort relied heavily on Matt Duenas and Preston Basa, making it hard for the team to mount a big comeback.

At the end of the one-sided match, four KB Market players finished in twin digits with Brendon Talania leading the way with his 25 points. Elmer Esdrelon added 16, while Marlon De Dios and Leo Galarse contributed 14 and 11, respectively. Duenas top-scored for Kanoa with his 29 markers, while Basa chipped in 24.

First Game

Hoopaholics 88 – Itibus 21, Fitial

pro fight late last month.

The Marianas High School alumnus was initially paired against a Korean fighter in PXC 40 that took place on Oct. 25, however his foe did not make it to Guam due to immigration issues. With his second fight in PXC cancelled, organizers opted to enter him in the PXC 41 fight card. “It was a bit of a short notice, but I don’t mind because I was really preparing for the October fight and when my bout against a Korean fighter was called off, all I need to do is extend my training for a few more weeks,” Shane said.

Cuki Alvarez agreed, saying the cancellation of the October fight will not affect Shane’s conditioning.

“Right now, he is at 140 lbs and peaking right. He’s training well, has no injury, and is on a right diet so by

21, Babauta 17, Manibusan 10, Litulimar 8, Diaz 7, Tenorio 4.

Mobil/JP World 81 – Pelisamen 33, Ruluked 9, Kaipat 9, Olaitiman 8, Estolas 7, Gamboa 6, Fernando 4, De Guzman 3.

Scoring by quarters: 23-24, 45-42, 65-58, 88-81.

Second Game

KB Market 103 – Talania 25, Esdrelon 16, De Dios 14, Galarse 11, Devero 6, Barbo 6, Aquino 6, Muleta 3, Manalo 3, David 2.

Kanoa Resort 91 – Duenas 29, Basa 24, Brennan 9, Coldeen 8, L. Sablan 6, Manglona 6, Orbeta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 29-17, 53-38, 75-65, 103-91.

the time the weigh-in comes, he will be in perfect shape. He is lighter, but faster and has more power,” said Cuki, who noted that Shane started fighting at 160 lbs before tipping the scales at 135 lbs during his pro debut.

“He lost weigh gradually, using the Paleo diet. We did it right, so going down the weight class (bantamweight) will not be a problem,” the Trench Tech president and trainer said.

The Paleo diet, according to Wikipedia, is short for Paleolithic diet or more commonly known as the “cave-man diet.” An individual undergoing “Paleolithic diet” eats mainly fish, grass-fed, pasture-raised meats, eggs, vegetables, fruit, fungi, roots, and nuts, and passes on grains, legumes, dairy products, potatoes, refined salt, refined sugar, and processed oils.

stay in the game, which will resume tomorrow after the first match.

San Roque 70 – Fernando 33, Mc. Achas 8, Odicta 6, Alipio 5, Gapor 5, Salazar 4, Mi. Achas 2.

Maplas 57 – Mendoza 17, Tenorio 13, Devero 9, Mateo 8, M. Usi 5, Claveria 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-12, 35-26, 49-42, 70-57.

PIKABOO

From Page 28

at the 53-second mark of the second round. Alvarez’s challenger went on to post a 2-0 record after earning a submission victory (punches) in the first round over Jilmar Tangayan in URCC 20 in 2011. The Koronadal City, Mindanao native’s recent fight was in February last year in URCC Baguio 4: Battleground and he lost that bout against Rey Docyogen, who won via submission (Kimura) at the 4:56 mark of the first round.

“I did not know much about my opponent, but I am prepared for whatever comes my way during the fight night. I’ve been training for the past two months since my pro debut win in Guam,” Alvarez said.

Cuki Alvarez, Shane’s father echoed

his son’s thoughts, saying “Pikaboo” is in good shape and ready to go all out against Oraís.

“We prepared him for all the scenarios. If it will be a long ground game he is ready. If it’s going to be a stand-up fight he is also all set. We are aiming for an early finish, that’s every fighter’s goal. However, you can’t tell what’s going to happen on fight night, so Shane has to be ready for everything,” the older Alvarez said.

This includes the “hometown crowd” factor, but Shane is looking to turn this “disadvantage” to his favor.

“I will go out there and put on a good fight early. I will show them my skills. Hopefully, they will like what they see in me and I get to gain fans in the Philippines,” said Shane, who was supposed to compete in his second PXC

the game came past the halfway mark of the first quarter.

Meanwhile, the Adobo-Fong’s Bakery game last Saturday was rained-out with the latter ahead, 35-34, with 9:45 left in the fourth canto. Noel David opened the third period with a layup to put Fong’s Bakery on top before organizers halted the game due to the heavy shower.

The low-scoring game saw Fong’s taking the driver’s seat at the end of the first

period, 15-1, as it held Adobo to three field goals in that canto, while drawing 6 points from J.R. Barrios. Then in the second period, it was Adobo’s turn to neutralize Fong’s Bakery, which tallied only 6 markers, allowing the former to wrestle the lead at halftime, 22-21.

The seesaw battle continued in the third with Ichitaro Faisao keeping Adobo afloat and Fong’s Bakery getting contributions from multiple players to

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	3	0	1.000	—
Toronto	2	1	.667	1
Brooklyn	1	1	.500	1½
New York	1	1	.500	1½
Boston	0	2	.000	2½

Southeast Division

Atlanta	1	1	.500	—
Charlotte	1	2	.333	½
Miami	1	2	.333	½
Orlando	1	2	.333	½
Washington	0	2	.000	1

Central Division

Indiana	3	0	1.000	—
Detroit	1	1	.500	1½
Chicago	1	2	.333	2
Milwaukee	1	2	.333	2
Cleveland	1	2	.333	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	3	0	1.000	—
San Antonio	2	1	.667	1
Dallas	2	1	.667	1
New Orleans	1	2	.333	2
Memphis	1	2	.333	2

Northwest Division

Minnesota	2	0	1.000	—
Portland	2	1	.667	½
Oklahoma City	1	1	.500	1
Denver	0	2	.000	2
Utah	0	3	.000	2½

Pacific Division

Phoenix	2	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	2	1	.667	½
Golden State	2	1	.667	½
L.A. Lakers	1	2	.333	1½
Sacramento	1	2	.333	1½

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	2	0	.778	234	175
N.Y. Jets	5	4	0	.556	169	231
Miami	4	4	0	.500	174	187
Buffalo	3	6	0	.333	189	236

South

Indianapolis	6	2	0	.750	214	155
Tennessee	4	4	0	.500	173	167
Houston	2	6	0	.250	146	221
Jacksonville	0	8	0	.000	86	264

North

Cincinnati	6	3	0	.667	217	166
Cleveland	4	5	0	.444	172	197
Baltimore	3	5	0	.375	168	172
Pittsburgh	2	6	0	.250	156	208

West

Kansas City	9	0	0	1.000	215	111
Denver	7	1	0	.875	343	218
San Diego	4	4	0	.500	192	174
Oakland	3	5	0	.375	146	199

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	5	4	0	.556	257	209
Philadelphia	4	5	0	.444	225	231
Washington	3	5	0	.375	203	253
N.Y. Giants	2	6	0	.250	141	223

South

New Orleans	6	2	0	.750	216	146
Carolina	5	3	0	.625	204	106
Atlanta	2	6	0	.250	176	218
Tampa Bay	0	8	0	.000	124	190

North

Green Bay	5	2	0	.714	212	158
Detroit	5	3	0	.625	217	197
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	213	206
Minnesota	1	7	0	.125	186	252

West

Seattle	8	1	0	.889	232	149
San Francisco	6	2	0	.750	218	145
Arizona	4	4	0	.500	160	174
St. Louis	3	6	0	.333	186	226

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

UFO Open Standings

Proa	5	0
I Love Ladder Beach	5	1
Hoopaholics	3	3
KB Market	2	3
Mobil	2	4
Toka	1	4
Kanoa Resort	1	4

Week 1 of Tan Holdings Open 2013

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Mykki Caracut makes a return from the backcourt while teammate Patricia Abantao looks on during their women’s doubles C game against Tina Lee and Kuen Hee Han in the opening week of the Tan Holdings Open 2013 at the TSL Sports Complex.



Tina Lee lunges for a shot.



Jordan Pangilinan leans backward to reach for the shuttlecock during his and Ezekiel Macario’s men’s doubles B game against Jojo Savellano and Joel Ortega.



Patricia Abantao runs sideways for a return.



Jordan Pangilinan misses the shuttlecock, but Ezekiel Macario is there for the pickup.



Ezekiel Macario serves.



Jojo Savellano jumps for a return.



Joel Ortega steps forward for a return.



Cris Hilario goes for a backhand return.



Deether Edralin receives a shot at the backcourt.



Foles throws 7 TDs, Eagles beat Raiders, 49-20

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James, Bosh lift Heat past Wizards, 103-93

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Hoops finishes strong, beats Mobil

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hoopaholics capped its regular season campaign in the UFO-Budweiser Open Division Basketball League with a win over the struggling Mobil/JP World, 88-81, last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The Hoops finished the round-robin competition with a 3-3 record and is currently in third place in the team standings behind the unbeaten AXE Proa (5-0) and I Love Ladder Beach (5-1). Mobil (2-4) also played its last game in the regular season and is in fifth place behind KB Market (2-3). Completing the standings are Toka Degree (1-4) and Kanoa Resort (1-4).

Only two games are left for the regular season and these will be played tonight with Proa taking on Kanoa in the first match at 6:30pm and Toka colliding with KB Market at 8pm. The results of tonight's matches will determine the pairings in the single-elimination playoffs. The first round of the playoffs will have the No. 2 to No. 7 teams battling for the three remaining semis seats, as Proa had already secured the first and outright semis ticket. The playoff pairings will be No. 2 vs No. 7, No. 3 vs No. 6, and No. 4 vs No. 5.

The Hoops boosted its chances for the No. 3 spot after playing a team game against Mobil, which came into the league as an early favorite, but had



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Hoopaholics' Freddie Litulumar goes up for a finger-roll against AXE Proa's Gino Libuw during their game in the UFO Open caging late last month at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium. Hoops played its final game in the regular season last Thursday and won over Mobil/JP World, 88-81.

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'Pikaboo' eyes win No. 2 at PXC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez is leaving for the Philippines this Thursday to compete in the PXC 41 at the Ynares Sports Center in Pasig City.

Alvarez will be facing the Philippines and Grapplers MMA's Rodel "Kid" Orais in a bantamweight bout and is favored in the 135-lb fight card record-wise. Alvarez holds an impressive 9-1 win-loss record, prevailing in his pro debut in August this year after a split de-



cision over Guam's Tony "Rush" Reyes in PXC 38. The 19-year-old Saipan fighter, who absorbed his lone loss at the hands of Guam's Robert Wusstig during Trench Warz 15 in 2011, also holds four wins via TKOs and two via submissions.

Orais has fewer fights than Alvarez, having seen action in only three MMA bouts. He started in boxing before switching to MMA in 2009 and winning his debut at the Fearless Fighting Challenge 9. The 34-year-old Orais knocked out (string of punches) Joel Amurao

See PIKABOO on Page 26

Trench Tech's Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez catches Guam's Tony "Rush" Reyes on the corner during their bantamweight bout in PXC 38 held at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in August this year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

San Roque's Angelo Fernando floats a one-hander against Maplas' Emerson Claveria during the second quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Fernando lifts San Roque past Maplas

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Angelo Fernando reported back for duty and powered San Roque to a 70-57 win over Maplas in the lone game completed in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Fernando did not play in San Roque's 63-71 loss to Island Manpower on Oct. 14 and when he re-



turned to action, he was all over the court, pouring 33 points in the team's 13-point victory.

He and McClain Achas teamed up in an 11-3 start and the San Roque continued slashing through the lane in the last three quarters to cause troubles to Maplas' defense.

The San Roque wingman was so unstoppable that he dropped his team's last 6 points in the third quarter to halt Maplas' rally, and then nailed the squad's first 9 markers in the fourth canto.

Edmark Mendoza and Dexter Tenorio tried to join forces to lessen the damage Fernando was creating on San Roque's defense, however their baskets were scattered and could not muster a

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